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# Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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## POLL RESULTS

Did you check out the 27th Flame Tree Arts Festival?



Yes-59



No-66

Sunday May 4, 2008

## INSIDE



### Deadly Virus

China on Sunday raised the death toll to 24 following the outbreak of a virus in another province a day after the Health Ministry ordered heightened efforts to stem the spread of infectious diseases.

Asia...Page 16



### Starting 'Em Young

Carly Wade is slightly out of breath as she moves through the weight room of Bogifit Youth Conditioning Center, an Anaheim Hills, Calif., gym geared to teenagers.

Health and Fitness...Page 18

'I tendered my resignation six months ago.' PAGE 2  
Vice Speaker supports call for summit on energy. PAGE 3

## TO STAVE OFF CNMI FEDERALIZATION

# Litigation still an option



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial delivers his State of the Commonwealth Address at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe last Friday.

By AGNES E. DONATO  
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REPORTER

A lawsuit against the U.S. government remains one of the Fitial administration's options for a response to the imminent "federalization" of the CNMI's immigration control.

See LITIGATION on Page 4

## Grey says no indication that local Immigration officers will be hired

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

The federalization bill is not clear whether local Immigration officers will be hired once the federal government takes over, according to Division of

Immigration director Melvin Grey.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune* after Friday's State of the Commonwealth Address, Grey said nobody can commit that local Immigration officers will be employed once NMI immigra-

See GREY on Page 4

## Car sales drop 20 percent in April

By MARK RABAGO  
mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

New car sales decelerated anew last month with the Commonwealth Auto Dealers Association posting a 20.29-percent drop in April 2008.

After absorbing a 23-percent decrease last month, the three automobile dealers in the Commonwealth saw its profit margins take a hit following a 14-unit drop in new car sales to 55 from 69 new cars disposed of in April 2007.

See CAR on Page 4

## Obama wins Guam caucuses by a mere 7 votes

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Barack Obama defeated Hillary Rodham Clinton by seven votes in the Guam Democratic presidential caucuses. The count of more than 4,500 ballots took all night, extending into Sunday morning.



### RELATED NEWS

Democrat wins congressional seat long held by Republican.  
**PAGE 16**

Neither candidate campaigned in the U.S. island territory in person, but both  
See OBAMA on Page 4



### FIRE DANCE

The Penina Ole Vasa dance group perform the fire dance to kickoff this year's Taste of the Marianas at the American Memorial Park Saturday. The event will be followed by four consecutive Saturday evenings on May 10, 17, 24, and 31 from 6pm to 10pm. See story on Page 2

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

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## Local

# 'I tendered my resignation six months ago'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

Former Commonwealth Utilities Corp. Executive Director Anthony C. Guerrero yesterday clarified that he did not submit a resignation letter or resigned hours after Gov. Benigno R. Fitial delivered his State of the Commonwealth Address on Friday.



Guerrero

In an e-mail to *Saipan Tri-*

bune, Guerrero said Fitial accepted his courtesy resignation and delivered to him at CUC hours after his SOCA.

Guerrero pointed out that he submitted his courtesy resignation nearly six months ago or on Nov. 7, 2007, as Fitial requested from all Cabinet members and political appointees on that day.

"I respect the governor's decision to move the

corporation in another direction. I humbly ask the CUC employees to continue their professionalism, dedication, and commitment in providing services to our great Commonwealth," he said.

Guerrero also urged all CUC employees to support the new CUC executive director Antonio Muna and the administration during this difficult and challenging period in the Commonwealth.

The Fitial administration tapped Guerrero in January

2006 to serve as acting CUC executive director. Eight months later, the governor made him permanent executive director.

According to the Public Information and Protocol Office, Fitial accepted Guerrero's resignation and appointed Muna, the former special assistant for the Office of Management and Budget, as new CUC executive director effective today, Monday.

Muna previously served as a receiver for the rehabilitated Bank of Saipan. He had re-

signed as budget official for the Fitial administration in Decem-

ber 2007, but stayed on as a financial adviser to the governor.

## 10th Annual taste of the Marianas kicks off

By **RIANNE PANGELINAN-**

**BROWN**

rianne\_pangelinan@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority kicked off its 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival and Beer Garden at the American Memorial Park Saturday evening.

The event, which drew scores of people throughout the community, featured local and international cuisines sold by participating hotel and local restaurant outlets.

Some of Saturday's vendors included the Aqua Resort Club Saipan, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Hafa Adai Beach Hotel, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Pacific Islands Club, Palms Resort Saipan, Saipan World Resort, Mariana Resort & Spa, Capricciosa & Tony Roma's, D'Elegance Café, Herman's Modern Bakery, Hula Girl, Thai House Restaurant, Poon's Restaurant, Ty & Tia, Pacific Trading Company, Marpac, and the Northern Marianas Bartenders Association.

Visitors to the festival also enjoyed talent performances by Tenina Olevasa, Inatuas Cultural Dancers, A-Track, and Telvi Maori.

According to MVA managing director Perry Tenorio, the Taste of the Marianas has become an annual outlet event

that both locals and visitors have come to enjoy.

"At MVA we embrace the opportunity to have our visitors to the island experience our local culture in an environment that has become a mainstay for the island of Saipan," Tenorio said.

The Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival and Beer Garden in its 10th year, is an annual event which began in 1999 as part of the Visit the Marianas Campaign. This year's Taste of the Marianas will be held every Saturday from 6pm to 10pm, during the month of May which began on May 3, 2008, until May 31, 2008, at the American Memorial Park.

The Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival and Beer Garden is an event that both visitors to the island and local residents often look forward to.

May is Tourism Month packed with activities help underscore the importance of tourism industry.

Lt. Gov. Tim P. Villagomez signed the proclamation last week designating May as Tourism Month. He also urged residents and visitors alike to observe Tourism Month by participating in ceremonies and activities and celebrating the month's theme "Tourism is everybody's business."

## Reyes: No settlement of JG Sablan Pagan case

Press Secretary Charles Reyes yesterday denied press reports of a settlement with JG Sablan concerning the Pagan mining permit litigation currently before the Superior Court.

"There has been no settlement of this litigation," said Reyes. "There are important issues before the court regarding the validity of DPL Secretary John S. Del Rosario's termination of JG Sablan's mining permit for the island of Pagan."

Reyes said he believes the government's case is strong and that the administration looks forward to the court's prompt resolution of these legal issues.

Reyes said not only is there no settlement agreement reached with JG Sablan Rock Quarry, Inc., there are not even settlement negotiations between the two parties to the

lawsuit regarding the revoked mining permit for non-performance and for numerous permit condition violations.

On Aug. 1, 2006, the Department of Public Lands terminated the Pagan mining permit of JG Sablan Rock Quarry, Inc., for cause and JG Sablan then filed a lawsuit disputing the permit termination later that month. The litigation has needlessly delayed the responsible development and extraction of valuable Pagan resources for the benefit of the CNMI economy.

According to Reyes, the administration looks forward to the court's prompt resolution of this case, so that the CNMI government can fully maximize the potential of Pagan resources and enter into discussions with the U.S. military about Pagan's possible military use. (PR)

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# Vice Speaker supports call for energy summit

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Vice Speaker Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero has expressed support to Washington Rep. Pete A. Tenorio's call for the CNMI to hold a summit on energy to address the utility power crisis.

Deleon Guerrero said he agreed with Tenorio in his State of the Washington Office Report that NMI leaders should come together in a conference to discuss, explore, and agree to what directions are going to be with respect to energy.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune* shortly after Friday's State of the Commonwealth Address and State of the Washington Office Report, the vice speaker said he is also aware with Fitial's



Guerrero

announcement that the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., through the \$6.5 million federal grant, is nearing completion of maintenance and repair at Saipan's main power plant in Lower Base.

"The request for reprogramming of the CIP (Capital Improvement Program) funds really was the recommendation that came from the Legislature. I'm glad that that did happen and I am glad that the contracts have been awarded and rehabilitation work is ongoing," he said.

Deleon Guerrero said maintenance and repair are the very immediate solution to the power problem.

He said the next step is really for the administration and Legislature to come together

and agree to what is the best permanent solution.

"We have to agree if we are going to pursue renewable energy, what kind of renewable energy? The Executive Branch cannot be saying geothermal and the Legislature is going wind power. Who knows the Washington Rep. may say ocean thermal or ocean wave energy. We need to come united with that," the vice speaker stressed.

In his report, Tenorio proposed to Gov. Fitial and the Legislature to convene an energy summit to develop short term, intermediate, and long term energy plans.

"Let us agree that we cannot do this alone. We need assistance from the federal government to help us develop a realistic plan for power sustainability to help us identify expertise and federal financial help," Tenorio said.

## Agencies prodded to implement renewable energy law

A legislative committee has prodded concerned agencies on the implementation of the green energy law.

Rep. Tina Sablan, chairwoman of the Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications Committee of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, sent out letters to six agencies tasked with implementing the Commonwealth's renewable energy law. She asked each agency about its progress toward meeting

the intent of the legislation.

Public Law 15-23 was enacted in May 2006, in a bid to increase the CNMI's reliance for power generation on renewable sources of energy rather than fossil fuels. The law was amended in September 2007 to shorten the timeline for compliance with renewable energy portfolio goals.

The agencies are the Department of Commerce, Department of Finance, Department of Lands and Natural Resources, Department of Public Lands, Department of Public Works, and Saipan Zoning Board.

Commerce, for instance, is tasked to collaborate with Public Works in developing a program to maximize the use of green energy and cost-effective conservation measures by government agencies. Both agencies are also directed to work with federal agencies to identify funding for research or technical aid to support the CNMI in efforts to achieve the renewable energy portfolio standards set by the law.

Lands and Natural Resources is supposed to work with Public Lands and the Zoning Board in developing a catalog of potential sites for the development of renewable energy. It

is also mandated to work with the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to expedite the planning and permitting processes for the development of renewable energy resources.

Finance is directed to ensure that all CNMI government agencies are purchasing energy using energy efficient products, and implementing methods for using energy cost effectively.

Public Law 15-23 established requirements for the use of renewable energy, a policy for energy efficiency, and standards for clean energy transportation. It set deadlines for each electric utility to gradually increase the amount of alternative energy they produce.

Public Law 15-87 amended the initial green energy law, setting more rigid requirements for local utilities to integrate green energy into their system. P.L. 15-87 requires that renewable energy constitute 80 percent of the power utility's net sales seven years from now.

Under the latest law, green energy must constitute at least 10 percent of the total energy produced by CUC by the end of 2008. From then on, the standard would double every two years, until it reaches 80 percent in 2014. (Agnes E. Donato)

## Sparse attendance postpones GOP meeting

A local GOP meeting Friday was postponed because of sparse attendance.

Fewer than 10 members showed up at the general membership meeting, where new officers were to be elected.

Ana Teregeyo, first vice president of the NMI Republican Party, said the meeting will be rescheduled for some time this week.

"There was just not enough members. We figured the members might have had other activities and prior commitments. We could have gone ahead with the election, but that would not have been fair to the majority," said Teregeyo.

She said the purpose of the meeting is to elect new officers and to adopt the minutes from the last two meetings of the party.

The current officers are Tom Pangelinan, president; Ana Teregeyo, first vice president; Roman Tudela, second vice president; Luis John Castro, secretary; and Karl Reyes, treasurer. (Agnes E. Donato)



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# Load shedding expected as CUC enters third month of partial fuel purchases

By AGNES E. DONATO  
agnes\_donato@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Daily power outages may be back soon as the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation enters its third month of only partial fuel purchases.

Anthony Guerrero, the now resigned CUC executive director, in a letter to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial on Friday said the utility will begin load shedding on a daily basis if it does not get financial help soon.

"CUC has nowhere else to turn. This need is brought about by CUC's inability to purchase enough fuel to last from one tanker delivery to the next," said Guerrero, who has been replaced by Antonio Muna.

He reported that a fuel tanker was to arrive Friday, but CUC did not have the money to pay for the full delivery of 20,000 barrels worth \$3.1 million. Without daily power outages, CUC

would only have enough fuel to operate Saipan's main power plant until Wednesday, May 7, 2008.

May 2008 would be the third month in a row that CUC has made a partial purchase of the scheduled monthly fuel delivery that arrives by tanker. Previous partial purchases were made on March 6 and April 4. CUC was only able to operate with minimal interruptions because of supplemental transfers from the fuel farm of CUC's supplier, Mobil Oil.

To make CUC's problems worse, Mobil now wants to charge the utility an additional \$250,000 in shipping costs that the oil firm incurred because of the partial purchases. Under the fuel supply contract, the Mobil may pass these charges on to CUC.

Guerrero said the October 2007 rollback of power rates was the main reason for CUC's financial problems. CUC is now expecting a shortfall of \$11.3 mil-

lion in fuel costs million by Sept. 30, 2008. He said the Legislature approve bill reversing the rollback would reduce the shortfall, but it would not be enough to keep CUC in the black.

Another factor in CUC's poor cash flow is the reduced electric sales. Many customers have left the island, and most of those left behind are saving energy because of the higher electric rates. The non-fuel component of power rates was based on monthly sales of 30 million kWh needed for full cost recovery. But sales are less than 24 million kWh. As a result, CUC expects to under-recover its non-fuel costs by about \$8.2 million by Sept. 30.

Guerrero also reported that rate increases for water and wastewater services are imminent. This is seen to end CUC's current practice of using electric revenues to subsidize water and wastewater operations. During fiscal year 2007, the subsidy amounted to \$5.2

million. CUC expects a similar amount to be shifted to water and wastewater this year.

Further, CUC needs \$4.3 million to match the federal funds being used to pay for contractors conducting repair and maintenance at the main power plant.

"Without an outside source of funding, it is inevitable that load shedding is here for the long term. For how long, no one knows. But if no action is taken, CUC will eventually exhaust all its funds and cease to be operational at any level," Guerrero said.

Last week, the Legislature passed an omnibus bill that would provide much needed funding to CUC.

The measure, now awaiting the governor's signature, would suspend the power rates rollback up to Dec. 31, 2008, and allow the Public Utilities Commission to issue emergency and

interim power rates. It would ease quorum requirements for PUC, allowing the regulatory board to set rates even if there is only one commissioner.

The proposed law also incorporates fiscal measures such as the reduction of the government's pension contribution rate from 18 percent to 11 percent of the total payroll. Half of the savings—about \$5.63 million—from the reduction would go to CUC's fuel expenses. Some \$80,000 would go to PUC's startup operations. The rest—approximately \$5.55 million—would be used at the governor's discretion.

Further, the bill would grant the governor unlimited reprogramming power over lapsed funding, re-appropriate some \$2.15 million of suspended earmarks to CUC's fuel expenses, and allow CUC to use half of its customers' security deposits for fuel.

## GREY

From Page 1

tion will be placed under federal control.

Grey said while the wording in the bill gives priority consideration of hiring locals to fill up the positions, nobody would tell what the standards are going to be.

The director underscored the need to have them informed about the standards to the staff members can get prepared for that.

"So we have no idea. The wording priority consideration is so weak... without giving us the standards to tell us what it is so we be prepared for it," he pointed out.

Grey said local Immigration officers should be employed because they have the experience.

"There is no reason why they can't,"

said the director, adding that local officers should be given background check, send to school under the program and be on the job.

The omnibus bill that extends federal immigration laws to CNMI is now reportedly with President Bush. It is expected to be signed into law within 10 days.

With respect to Fitial's SOCA, Grey he is impressed with the governor because he has done things and get things to happen.

"He is just not talking about ideas. I think it is very commendable under the stress he has with the economic situation," Grey said.

On Washington Rep. Pete A. Tenorio's State of the Washington Office Report, the director said "it's a little bit weak."

"I just don't see any accomplishments. Only ideas and recognition that things need to be done," Grey said.

## CAR

From Page 1

The 55 new cars sold last month are broken down as follows: 32 cars, four trucks, five vans, and 14 sport utility vehicles.

Triple J Motors led the decline after seeing new car sales plummet 52.95 percent to eight units last month, compared to the 17 it sold during the same period last year. The Beach Road dealership sold five cars and three SUVs last month.

Market leader Microl Corp. also was not immune from the beating CADA took last month, as the Oleai dealership had four less new cars sold in April 2008—from 31 to 27—compared to a year ago, which represented a 12.9-percent decrease. Microl Corp. sold 18 cars, one truck, three vans, and five SUVs last month.

Joeten Motors experienced the least turmoil in terms of new car sales in April 2008 as the Beach Road dealership only recorded a 4.76-percent slip—from 21 in 2007 to 20 in 2008. Joeten Motors' new car sales last

month included nine cars, three trucks, two vans, and six SUVs.

Year to date figures from CADA, meanwhile, show that new car sales are a tick behind January-April 2007 records, as the association has sold 245 new cars in the first four months of 2008 compared to 250 during the first quarter of 2007—a still bearable 2-percent drop.

Joeten Motors is the distributor for Nissan, Ford, Honda, and Kia. Microl Corp. sells Toyota and Chevrolet. Triple J Motors peddles Mazda, Hyundai, Mitsubishi, and Suzuki.

## OBAMA

From Page 1

did long-distance media interviews and bought campaign ads for the caucuses.

Results of the count completed Sunday morning Guam time show delegates pledged to Obama with 2,264 votes to 2,257 for Clinton's slate. That means they will split the pledged delegate votes. Obama's slate won in 14 of 21 districts.

Clinton issued a statement Saturday night promising, "I will continue to champion the issues facing the people of Guam, and when I'm president I will en-

sure that hard-working families of Guam have the resources and the opportunity to succeed." Obama's campaign had no immediate reaction to the results.

Eight pledged delegates will attend the convention, each with one-half vote.

U.S. citizens on the island, however, have no vote in the November election.

The territory also sends five super-delegates to the National Convention in August in Denver.

The Guam caucuses added two pledged delegates apiece for Clinton and Obama. The vote for party chairman and vice chairman also added a superdelegate for Obama and subtract-

ed one for Clinton because the outgoing vice chair had endorsed the New York senator.

Obama had a total of 1,742.5 delegates, including endorsements from party and elected officials who will serve as superdelegates. Clinton had 1,607.5 delegates, according to The Associated Press tally.

It will take 2,025 delegates to secure the Democratic nomination at the party's national convention this summer in Denver.

All-day voting Saturday had people lining up at 21 caucus sites around the U.S. territorial island, which has unexpected

importance in a historic Democratic race in which every delegate matters.

There was no direct presidential vote, but each candidate had a slate of supporters on the ballot.

Slow ballot-by-ballot counting went through the night in the territorial legislative building after votes were hand-carried from the caucus sites.

Presidential caucuses on Guam usually pass without much notice from the candidates. This time, Obama and Clinton made their case for the territory's four regular delegates with local advertising and long-distance interviews.

Clinton and Obama pitched improved

health care and economic opportunity as they courted Guam voters from across the international date line. Both Clinton and Obama say they've got the better health plan for Guamanians.

Obama said in an interview with Pacific Daily News that he would support reexamination of a \$5.4 million (€3.49 million) Medicaid spending limit imposed on the territory. Clinton's husband, former President Bill Clinton, told KUAM radio that his wife would work to remove the cap.

Hillary Clinton also has called for Guamanians to be able to vote in presidential elections.

## LITIGATION

From Page 1

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial in his State of the Commonwealth Address Friday cited three courses of action which he said the Commonwealth can pursue: litigation, negotiations regarding the regulations, or seeking amendments to the legislation now awaiting the president's signature.

"I am in the process of consulting with the Legislature, the business community, the indigenous community, and other interested parties about these options," said Fitial.

The omnibus bill that extends federal immigration laws to the Northern Marianas is now with President Bush. It is expected to be signed within the next 10 days.

The administration and the private sector have warned that the bill would further hurt the CNMI's struggling

economy. They believe that a federalized immigration system would make it difficult for the CNMI to hire alien workers to fill jobs on the islands. They also fear the CNMI will lose its edge as a destination for Russian and Chinese tourists.

Fitial said there is clamor in the community for the government to challenge the federalization measure in court. The main argument is that the legislation is not authorized by the Covenant, as it denies the CNMI's right to self-government over the local economy and workforce. Another argument is that the legislation is contrary to the U.S. Constitution "because no local community on the mainland has been, or could be, subjected to such controls over its local economy."

But the governor acknowledged that litigation "is a difficult and controversial alternative." Still, he noted that there is "both vigorous support and articulate opposition" to suing

the federal government.

The second option cited by the governor is to participate fully in the drafting of the regulations implementing the new law. "We cannot afford to sit back and wait for the federal agencies to solicit our opinion regarding the regulations," he said.

He reported that local tourism leaders, joined by Immigration Director Melvin Gray, have already started discussing the law's provisions for a joint visa waiver program for Guam and the CNMI. The Saipan Chamber of Commerce has also come out publicly about its plan to participate in the drafting of the regulations, especially with concern to foreign worker provisions of the new law.

The last option is to seek amendments to the federalization measure when the U.S. Congress considers national immigration reform. Fitial took a swipe at the drafters of the current bill, saying that immigration experts in the Judiciary Committees of the two hous-

es of Congress should have a better understanding of the CNMI's unique problems than those who shaped the bill just approved by Congress.

Many lawmakers seem to agree that litigation is out of the question.

House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios maintained that the commonwealth would be served best if the government just cooperated with the U.S. government in drafting the regulations. "I think that is the most appropriate option. Let us waste no more money, no more time fighting it out," he said.

Senate President Pete P. Reyes also said that while many local leaders oppose the federalization bill, there is no point in suing the U.S. government over the measure. "The bill has gone through both houses of Congress. We have to accept the reality that there is going to be federalization. All we can do now is to position ourselves to participate and try to make it work," he said.

Rep. Diego T. Benavente, chairman

of the House Committee on Federal Relations, echoed the statement of both legislative leaders. "If the governor chooses litigation, I hope he uses his personal money, because the Commonwealth does not have the resources to fund that. To me, the two other options are the obvious approach. By still talking about litigation, we are only pushing ourselves backward, rather than moving forward. We've come to a point where you just have to get over your personal wish and move forward," Benavente said.

"I definitely would want to see our government involved in drafting the regulations, as opposed to raising our concerns after the fact," said Rep. Edward T. Salas.

For her part, Rep. Tina Sablan said that litigation is "costly and futile. I think the second option is the most obvious and fruitful. Let us come to the table and help the federal government create the regulations."





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Case No.	Employee	Employer	Hearing Date	Time
DC 08-97	Blancia, Alford O.	99 Cents Supermart Inc.	May 15, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-403	Pamaran, Rowell C.	Aguon, Clyde N.	May 22, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-451	Escueta, Susan P.	AR Ent. Inc.	May 23, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-169	Li, Jing Lan	Arianne Corporation	May 8, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 07-499	Genez, Elizabeth A.	Asia Pacific Overseas Inc.	May 8, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-226A	Asuncion, Arnold C.	Asuncion, Carmelito O.	May 20, 2008	11:00 a.m.
DC 08-418	Fernandez, Serafin Jr. A.	Baitlon, Noel M.	May 15, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-010	Baitlon, Glenn T.	Baitlon, Teresita	May 22, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-302	Bermudo Jr., Olimpio P.	Baltazar, Luisto	May 22, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-284	Li, Yu Hong	Capitol Corp.	May 16, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-76	Jocson, Raul I.	Castro, Eliseo M.	May 15, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-149	Salinas, Carlita A.	Castro, Menellia S.	May 8, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-258	Liu, Xingguo	Century Corp.	May 19, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-354	Serrano, Bienvenido D.	Cepeda, Doris E.	May 16, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-323	Sotto, Romeo M.	Cepeda, Norma S.	May 23, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-020	Cano, Reynato C.	CNMI-USA, Int'l. Business & Professional College	May 9, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-276	Tong, Lianfang	Cui Rong Corporation	May 19, 2008	11:00 a.m.
DC 08-386	Wang, Yindi	Dai Development Corp.	May 15, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-271	Diana, Domingo C.	Dailey, Myrna	May 19, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-270	Saturno, Eddie S.	Dailey, Myrna S. C.	May 19, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-230	Cabanes, Amalia DL.	Dela Cruz T&D Shop	May 20, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-374	Xuan, Haozhe	Dongbei Saipan, Inc.	May 9, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-309	Gomez, Eddie DLC.	Elms Inc.	May 15, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-442	Robles, Danilo R.	Esolution Inc.	May 23, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-405	Hong, Hanna	Expressions, Inc.	May 22, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-088	Dong, Xukun	Fei Ma Industrial Co., Ltd.	May 9, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-024	Gumabay, Antonio M.	Fejeran, Benigno T.	May 8, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-025	Saavedra, Robert R.	Fejeran, Benigno T.	May 8, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-191	Li, Guangfei	Feng Ze Corporation	May 16, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-452	Wang, Guotao	Freedom Inc.	May 23, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-262	Hu, Lunrong	Fu Mei Development Corp.	May 23, 2008	3:00 p.m.
DC 08-298	Rivera, Florita A.	Full House, Inc.	May 9, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-131	Restauero, Charito R.	Gaddy, Rosy D.	May 22, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-137	Ji, Kangmei	Gintian Corporation	May 9, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-115	Sahagun, Ruben G.	Golden Eagle Corporation	May 23, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-213	Liu, Ying	Great Sunshine Corporation	May 16, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-212	Wei, Han	Great Sunshine Corporation	May 16, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-367	Bi, Qian Dang	Guanglim Corporation	May 22, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-231	Cortez, Dennis T.	Gum Choun Corporation	May 9, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-243	Cruz, Felix H.	Hart, Arlene D.	May 22, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-244	Palma, Rowena P.	Hart, Arlene D.	May 22, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-077	Lin, Anshu	Huang Zheng Corp. Ltd.	May 8, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-288	Quinata, Juan H.	J Lucky Corporation	May 9, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-388	Hipolito, Leonila P.	J M Enterprises Inc.	May 22, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-275	Sanchez, Gloria L.	Jabrian, Karikour M.	May 22, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-054	Nolasco, Myla Dlc.	Jang Dong In	May 9, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-255	Wu, Wei Yun	Janvier Corporation	May 22, 2008	3:00 p.m.
DC 08-251	Garillo, Ernesto V.	Jap Professional Corporation	May 19, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-250	Mirasol, Zenaida C.	Jap Professional Corporation	May 23, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-161	David, Alexander E.	Jebehn, Ma. Hellena E.	May 19, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-440	Xue, Jiang	JK Corporation	May 23, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-331	Flores, Ricardo J.	JM Electronics	May 9, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-253	Nakamura, Kazunori	Job Market USA Corporation	May 15, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-123	Ferrer, Mary Ann F.	Joon Corporation	May 16, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-122	Genete, Rowena G.	Joon Corporation	May 16, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-121	Malapitan, Marichu De Guzman	Joon Corporation	May 16, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-444	Rollon, Aissa S.	JRC Logistics (Saipan), Inc.	May 22, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-406	Bautista, Basilia L.	Julim Ent. Inc.	May 22, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-136	Chen, Xunyang	Jushua International Corp.	May 15, 2008	10:00 a.m.

Case No.	Employee	Employer	Hearing Date	Time
DC 08-165	Cabio, Danilo C.	JWS Air Con & Refg Inc.	May 15, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-429	Ko, Moon Hee	K. SS. K. Corporation	May 23, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-413	Galura, Nestor L.	Kaleidoscope Inc.	May 15, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-315	Wang, Dongqin	Kangshun Corporation	May 16, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-211	Qiu, Lingin	KYS Ent., Inc.	May 8, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-006	Sheng, Fangjun	Kyung Seung Spn. Inc.	May 8, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 07-487	Wang, Yuezheng	Kyung Seung Spn. Inc.	May 8, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-443	Miao, Yuan Jun	L Y & Z American Corporation	May 23, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-277	Liu, Jun	Liao Ti Corporation	May 19, 2008	3:00 p.m.
DC 08-287	Kim, Byung Hwan	LT Tour Corporation	May 16, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-126	Robediso, Rosemarie S.	Lucky R Corporation	May 9, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-332	Rufo, Maria Luisa S.	Maanao, Artemio C.	May 16, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-296	Kashem, MD Abul	Mangarero, Enrique	May 16, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-402	Yoneda, Jun Ji	Marianas Sunrise Ent. Inc.	May 22, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-308	Huang, Xiu Mei	Mei Zhou Inc.	May 9, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-225B	Carreon, Macrino Q.	Meros Corporation	May 20, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-130	Bedruz, Jenette C.	Meros Corporation	May 22, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-409	Shang, Yu Zhen	Micronesia Holding Co., LCC	May 22, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-228	Divinagracia, Grace L.	Miller, Rabiab O.	May 9, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-229	Macalipay, Solomita A.	Miller, Rabiab O.	May 9, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-342	Bechayda, Amulfo B.	Mirano, Earl E. C.	May 23, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-347	Chua, Leonedes C.	Mirano, Earl E. C.	May 23, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-344	Cobacha, Joselito	Mirano, Earl E. C.	May 23, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-345	Corpuz, Russell R.	Mirano, Earl E. C.	May 23, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-343	Matias, Daisy P.	Mirano, Earl E. C.	May 23, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-346	Rago, Franklin A.	Mirano, Earl E. C.	May 23, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-282	Gonzales, Elenita C.	MRS3 Corporation	May 16, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-290	Su, Yiqun	Mulan Corporaiton	May 9, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-133	Choi, Jae Ho	Nury Corporation	May 22, 2008	11:00 a.m.
DC 08-257	Huang, Zheng	Pacific Fang Hui Corp.	May 23, 2008	11:00 a.m.
DC 08-204	Martin, Juliet D.	Pagalranganbay, Josephine S.	May 8, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-411	Bangot, Lornet D.	Pangelinan, Mariano K.	May 15, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-256	Alulod, Dolores T.	Par Enterprises Inc.	May 23, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-351	Garcia, Dominador R.	Powermate Freight Frwds Inc.	May 16, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-321	Shen, Wenzhe	PQ Corporation	May 22, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-222	Mu, Yuling	R & H USA Investment Corp. Ltd.	May 15, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-224	Sun, Jie	R & H USA Investment Corp. Ltd.	May 15, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-223	Wang, Dandan	R & H USA Investment Corp. Ltd.	May 15, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-221	Yuanyuan, Liu	R & H USA Investment Corp. Ltd.	May 20, 2008	3:00 p.m.
DC 08-264	Parfan, Rolando B.	Reyes, Consuelo M.	May 20, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-158	Entendez, Romeo, Jr. L.	Roberto, Juan B.	May 8, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-132	Agbayani, Nida R.	Rodens Corporation	May 23, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-225A	Tamayo, Federico C.	Romavilla Coporation	May 20, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-031	Dameg, Basiliisa O.	Sablan, Adrian P. & Marietta O.	May 8, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-289	Pascua, Alma C.	Sablan, Tito M.	May 16, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-454	Sakano, Mihoko	Saipan Coral Reef, Inc.	May 22, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-239	Zhou, Xiaolan	Shining Star Corporation	May 8, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-410	Shang, Li	Sunleader Co. Ltd.	May 22, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-182	Cruz, Domingo B.	Taitano, Alfred F.	May 8, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-034	Nieves, Daniel P.	Universal Enterprises, Inc.	May 9, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-135	Sabado, Roselyn M.	Web International Inc.	May 15, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-124	Culanggo, Lucia I.	White House Ent. Inc.	May 22, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-125	Olasiman, Marcela B.	White House Ent. Inc.	May 22, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-361	Garde, Sheryl C.	World Corporation	May 8, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-446	Nardo, Elizabeth B.	Xin Long Corporation	May 23, 2008	10:00 a.m.
DC 08-306	Shin, Im Soon	Y.H. Corporation	May 22, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-249	Zheng, Wenjian	Yong He Pacific Corp.	May 8, 2008	1:00 p.m.
DC 08-352	Tang, Xinmei	Yong He Pacific Corp.	May 16, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-292	Im, Inah	Yong Sang Pacific Corporation	May 9, 2008	2:00 p.m.
DC 08-120	Ueno, Nobumi	YTS Micronesia Inc.	May 15, 2008	9:00 a.m.
DC 08-417	Ventura, Amanda B.	YTS Micronesia Inc.	May 15, 2008	9:00 a.m.





## HOPWOOD FAIR

Hundreds of Hopwood Junior High School students flash the "I love you but please be quiet" hand signal as they participate on the school's Inaugural Health/Wellness/Career/Walk-A-Thon and Fair on Friday. The event is participated by 1076 HJSH students and it aims to promote healthy eating, physical fitness, boost students awareness on family issues, domestic violence, mental and emotional health, and also to motivate students for their future career goals.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

# 10-year jail time for man who stabbed businessman

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Ramona V. Manglona has imposed a 10-year jail term on a deportable alien who seriously injured a businessman by stabbing him with a knife.

In a written judgment issued on Thursday, Manglona ordered Ming Nan Jin to spend the maximum permissible term of 10 years in prison for the crime of assault with a dangerous weapon.

The judge gave the 36-year-old Jin credit for the time he already served in jail from March 20, 2007, to the present.

Manglona required the defendant to pay a \$4,977.59 restitution to the victim, Eun Soo Han, for his medical expenses.

She also directed Jin to pay a \$100 court assessment fee.

A review hearing was set for March 23, 2011, to determine whether the defendant has complied with all the terms of his sentence.

In March 2007, the Attorney General's Office charged Jin with attempted second degree murder, assault with a dangerous weapon, and aggravated assault and battery.

The defendant and counsel, assistant public defender Richard Miller, signed a plea agreement with the government represented by assistant attorney general Timothy Connor.

Jin pleaded guilty to assault with a dangerous weapon. The remaining charges were dismissed.

In her order, Manglona said Jin is a single, 36-year-old who speaks Korean but whose nationality is Chinese.

Jin worked on a farm before coming to the CNMI.

Manglona said because the victim was able to obtain prompt medical assistance, he survived the attack.

Manglona said according to the investigating detective's declaration, the victim was observed with knife cut wounds to the right arm and stomach area with protracting intestines.

The judge said the declaration indicates that the victim's wife witnessed the stabbing of her husband.

If convicted of the crime of attempted murder, Jin was facing a maximum sentence of 20 years.

If the court exercised its discretion under the CNMI laws, Manglona said, it could have

denied Jin's eligibility for parole during the entire term, thereby subjecting the defendant to actual incarceration for the entire 20-year sentence.

She said that by entering into the plea agreement, the defendant avoids the higher sentence and may still avoid serving the full 10-year prison term if he is granted parole by the Board of Parole.

"It is the understanding of this Court that the Board will not allow a release unless the issue of restitution is addressed. Therefore, this Court has opted to defer to the Board," Manglona said.

Furthermore, she pointed out, because Jin is a non-U.S. citizen with such a serious felony conviction, he will most likely be subject to deportation proceedings after his release, regardless of the actual amount of time he serves.

Manglona said it was after she accepted Jin's guilty did she learn that two months prior to committing this vicious crime, Jin was ordered deported from the CNMI.

Police said investigation showed that on Feb. 12, 2007, at noon Jin came to the apartment room of victim Han, at Kaepoong Building in central Garapan.

Jin confronted Han. During the commotion, Jin stabbed the businessman repeatedly with a knife.

Although injured, Han managed to run to an adjacent room. Jin fled the scene. On March 20, 2007, police arrested Jin.

A witness identified Jin as the boyfriend of the victim's employee. The witness told police that Jin appeared intoxicated at that time.

Court records also show that in October 2006, Immigration agents arrested Jin for allegedly overstaying in the CNMI.

According to the Immigration, Jin applied for a student entry permit under the Saipan University, but it was never approved because the university never existed.

Labor issued a temporary work authorization for Jin on Dec. 17, 2003. On June 16, 2005, Labor issued a memorandum to allow the respondent to look for a permanent employer and submit application for a one-year nonresident worker entry permit.

Jin failed to submit such application, according to an Immigration investigator.

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101st Seabees remember the CNMI

By RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN  
rianne\_pangelinan@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Marie Soledad Castro, a member of the Association of Construction Battalion, donated a 63-year-old plaque, made out of 95 percent Japanese warplane and 5 percent American warplane, to the American Memorial Park Museum.

The plaque was given to her by her friend, James Olsen, who was a member of the 101st Battalion World War II Seabee.

“When he gave it to me and told me all about it, including where it came from, I told him I appreciate it but the place that the plaque really belonged to is at the Memorial Park Museum,” Castro said.

More than a thousand members of the 101st Seabee Battalion came to Saipan in 1944 right after the Battles of Saipan and Tinian.

The 101st Seabee Battalion helped rebuild the island by constructing roads, boat docks, bridges, and other infrastructure.

While on island nearing Christmas Day, the battalion held a Christmas Party for approximately 300 native children.

The late Howard Mallon, who was a member of the 101st Seabee, recalled the event vividly and jotted down the experience in a letter before he passed away, stating that it was “a very memorable experience I can never forget.”

In the statement shared by Castro, Mallon said that on Christmas Day in 1944 the 101st Seabee Battalion sent a convoy of trucks to the civilian villages and picked up 300 lively children ages 7 to 15 years old.

At the time, the children were living in confined areas of the island along with native adults until such time as the island was

free of Japanese holdouts. “All the children had just gone through a horrible time with all the bombing and most youngsters were left with a family,” Olsen stated.

The children were brought back to the Seabee camp and were assigned to a Seabee who acted as his or her escort to the Christmas party.

The children were fed ice cream and cake, and had a special visit from Santa Claus. In return the children sang native Christmas songs to the Seabees.

Castro was among the 300 native children. She said she was 11 years old at the time and that the experience is impossible for her to forget.

“That was the very first time I ate ice cream and it tasted so good,” Castro said.

She never lost touch with her Seabee friends and attends the yearly reunion where she was made an honorary member of the 101st Seabee Battalion.

“They’re all very kind veterans. And through the years, they all have treated me like a daughter,” Castro said.

Olsen presented Castro the plaque that he earned from his time served in World War II.

According to Castro, Olsen told her that he wanted her to have it because he was getting old and did not have any children.

“Many of them have already passed away, but they will never be forgotten. Without them, we would not be enjoying life on Saipan as we are doing now,” Castro said.

AMP superintendent Sarah Creachbaum accepted Castro’s donation and said the gift and the story should be shared with all those who visit the museum.

The plaque now hangs conspicuously on the wall in the lobby of the museum.



101st SeaBee members tour the Liberty Memorial in Kansas City. From left, Calvin Bell, James D., Edward Michl, Henry Cheney, Al Riddle, Charles Strange, and Irv Shear.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

### LABOR DEPARTMENT NOTICE OF HEARINGS PENDING AGENCY CASES

**May 5, 2008 First Notice**  
**May 9, 2008 Second Notice**

Notice is hereby given to the persons listed below to appear at the Hearing Office, Department of Labor, Second Floor, Afetna Square Building, San Antonio, on the date and at the time listed below. Your claims will be heard at that time or continued to a date certain. Please bring any documentation necessary to the resolution of your claims or defenses to claims against you. If you fail to appear, or fail to bring documentation, your claims or defenses may be dismissed, and an administrative order may be entered against you.

**THESE HEARINGS ARE FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLARIFYING DEPARTMENT RECORDS WITH RESPECT TO PENDING CLAIMS. If your claims have been heard, settled, or withdrawn, or you do not wish to pursue your claim, you do not need to appear for the hearings on the schedule below.**

If your case has already been resolved through a hearing on an individual labor case, the order in that case is binding and will be adopted in the agency case. There will be no different resolution through the agency case. If your case has been resolved through a settlement, or you are a claimant and wish to withdraw your claims, please call Jeffrey Camacho, Investigator, 236-0960, or come to the Enforcement Office at the Department of Labor.

Case Number	Employee	Employer	Hearing date	Time
05-129-11	Del Rosario, Norman G.		May 14, 2008	8:30 a.m.
05-128-11	Negara, Reymond G.		May 14, 2008	8:30 a.m.
05-128-11	Negara, Reyna F.H.		May 14, 2008	8:30 a.m.
05-024-03	Bonoan, Johnson G.	Aguon, Jose C.	May 14, 2008	8:30 a.m.
05-047-04	Chen, Xinchun	Aguon, Reynaldo C. & Sun Mei Corp.	May 14, 2008	8:30 a.m.
05-047-04	Ye, Sanyuan	Aguon, Reynaldo C. & Sun Mei Corp.	May 14, 2008	8:30 a.m.
05-038-03	Sayson, Kimberly L.R.	AJ Ent., Inc. dba Grand Poker	May 14, 2008	8:30 a.m.
05-091-04	Bautista, Alexander U.	All Around Security Services, Inc.	May 14, 2008	8:30 a.m.
05-032-03	Estoque, Rodrigo P.	Aquino Printing	May 14, 2008	8:30 a.m.
05-094-04	Bulanadi, Mechelle M.	ASC, Inc. dba Nagoya Star Night Club	May 14, 2008	9:00 a.m.
05-094-04	Clapis, Analyn S.	ASC, Inc. dba Nagoya Star Night Club	May 14, 2008	9:00 a.m.
05-094-04	Diez, Tresha A.	ASC, Inc. dba Nagoya Star Night Club	May 14, 2008	9:00 a.m.
05-094-04	Labadiabad, M. Luisa R.	ASC, Inc. dba Nagoya Star Night Club	May 14, 2008	9:00 a.m.
05-094-04	Lansangan, Mary Rose	ASC, Inc. dba Nagoya Star Night Club	May 14, 2008	9:00 a.m.
05-094-04	Maniego, Dianne R.	ASC, Inc. dba Nagoya Star Night Club	May 14, 2008	9:00 a.m.
05-094-04	Tolentino, Maysee F.	ASC, Inc. dba Nagoya Star Night Club	May 14, 2008	9:00 a.m.
05-050-04	Wang, Hai Ming	Camacho, Felipe & Benvenida dba Sun Mei Corp.	May 14, 2008	9:00 a.m.
05-108-07	Quijano, William O.	Cudiatmat, Moises P.	May 14, 2008	9:00 a.m.
05-039-03	Dedel, Daniel M.	Deng Shi Corporation	May 14, 2008	9:00 a.m.
05-132-12	Jiang, Jizi	Express Manufacturing, Inc.	May 14, 2008	10:00 a.m.
05-132-12	Jin, Chunji	Express Manufacturing, Inc.	May 14, 2008	10:00 a.m.
05-132-12	Jin, Xianghua	Express Manufacturing, Inc.	May 14, 2008	10:00 a.m.
05-132-12	Quan, Jinhua	Express Manufacturing, Inc.	May 14, 2008	10:00 a.m.
05-132-12	Tao, Yaping	Express Manufacturing, Inc.	May 14, 2008	10:00 a.m.
05-132-12	Xiao, Jingxin	Express Manufacturing, Inc.	May 14, 2008	10:00 a.m.
05-132-12	Zhu, Lihua	Express Manufacturing, Inc.	May 14, 2008	10:00 a.m.
05-005-01	Zhong, Chen Chu	Golden Dragon	May 14, 2008	10:00 a.m.
05-127-11	Perez, Elizabeth DLC	Ibarra, Divina S.	May 14, 2008	10:00 a.m.
05-127-11	San Diego, Romeo L.	Ibarra, Divina S.	May 14, 2008	10:00 a.m.
05-127-11	Valdez, Mary D.B.D.	Ibarra, Divina S.	May 14, 2008	10:00 a.m.
05-110-08	Furuya, Mayuko	Jalpak Int'l Micronesia, Inc.	May 14, 2008	10:00 a.m.
05-110-08	Kadokura, Nami	Jalpak Int'l Micronesia, Inc.	May 14, 2008	10:00 a.m.
05-110-08	Kim, Young Sook	Jalpak Int'l Micronesia, Inc.	May 14, 2008	10:00 a.m.
05-110-08	Pineda, Teresa T.	Jalpak Int'l Micronesia, Inc.	May 14, 2008	10:00 a.m.
05-110-08	Tomishima, Kyoko	Jalpak Int'l Micronesia, Inc.	May 14, 2008	10:00 a.m.
05-078-04	Bhatta, Bhoj Raj	JM & Associates	May 14, 2008	10:00 a.m.
05-017-01	Liu, Yaping	Kan Pacific (Saipan), Ltd.	May 14, 2008	11:00 a.m.
05-116-09	Feliciano, Maria F.S.	L and W Amusement Corp.	May 14, 2008	11:00 a.m.
05-116-09	Millondaga, Leland T.	L and W Amusement Corp.	May 14, 2008	11:00 a.m.
05-066-04	Gambala, Margarita G.	Maratita, Janet U.	May 14, 2008	11:00 a.m.
05-087-04	Benig, Vivencio	Marianas Fastfood dba Kentucky Fried Chicken	May 14, 2008	11:00 a.m.
05-087-04	Fernandez, Isabelita M.	Marianas Fastfood dba Kentucky Fried Chicken	May 14, 2008	11:00 a.m.
05-087-04	Martinez, Vhilma S.	Marianas Fastfood dba Kentucky Fried Chicken	May 14, 2008	11:00 a.m.
05-087-04	Sathappan, Karuppiiah P.	Marianas Fastfood dba Kentucky Fried Chicken	May 14, 2008	11:00 a.m.
05-087-04	Tolarba, Delia B.	Marianas Fastfood dba Kentucky Fried Chicken	May 14, 2008	11:00 a.m.
05-135-12	Ma, Yangin	Maribeth Corp. dba Tambayan	May 14, 2008	11:00 a.m.
05-113-08	Dela Cruz, Delainy	Mega Power Corp. dba Max Const. and Atoll Diving and Tour Service	May 14, 2008	11:00 a.m.
05-113-08	Pit, Ereneo R.	Mega Power Corp. dba Max Const. and Atoll Diving and Tour Service	May 14, 2008	11:00 a.m.
05-109-08	Liu, Tie	New Continental Corporation	May 14, 2008	11:00 a.m.
05-061-04	Buzon, Clovita S.	Pacific Island Aviation, Inc.	May 14, 2008	11:00 a.m.
05-061-04	Carranceja, Jose A. III	Pacific Island Aviation, Inc.	May 14, 2008	11:00 a.m.
05-061-04	Cuevas, Federico S.	Pacific Island Aviation, Inc.	May 14, 2008	11:00 a.m.
05-061-04	Sato, Masaki	Pacific Island Aviation, Inc.	May 14, 2008	11:00 a.m.
05-095-04	Lin, Xiao Feng	Rifu Apparel	May 14, 2008	12:00 pm.
05-105-07	Caguiat, Anicia V.	Saipan Koresco Corporation	May 14, 2008	12:00 pm.
05-060-04	Fabito, Sammy R.	Sandy's Inc. dba Sandy's Beefeater	May 14, 2008	12:00 pm.
05-054-05	Mendoza, M. Ruby S.	Santos, Barbara	May 14, 2008	12:00 pm.
05-115-08	Galindez, Gedeliza B.	Skilling, Teresa (deceased)	May 14, 2008	12:00 pm.
05-118-09	Gallo, Warlita T.	Stettenbenz, Lisa B.	May 14, 2008	12:00 pm.
05-103-06	Torres, Rodora	Tambayan Lounge and Restaurant	May 14, 2008	12:00 pm.
05-081-04	Mo, Gui Ying	Winner's Corporation	May 14, 2008	12:00 pm.
05-011-01	Zhao, Chengbin	Winner's Corporation	May 14, 2008	12:00 pm.
05-090-04	Xin, Maiqin	Winner's II Corporation	May 14, 2008	12:00 pm.

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## A GLIMPSE OF THE PAST

*Looking back at the Mariana Islands the past 62 years*



PHOTO BY DMS

Graduation ceremony at Commander Findley School (Now William S. Reyes Elementary School). Commander Miller, commanding officer of the military government, makes the award to the graduating class assisted by school principal Felix Rabauliman. This photo was taken sometime in the early 1960s.

## BOS sues couple over \$101,156 loan

Bank of Saipan Inc. has sued a couple for allegedly failing to pay a \$101,156.59 loan.

BOS, through counsel S. Joshua Berger, asked the Superior Court to order Jung Eun Teack and his wife Mi Soon Jung Jeon to pay the amount plus accruing interest, court costs, and attorney's fees.

BOS requested the court to direct the Korean couple to pay the amount into the Registry of the Court within three months of the court's order or that their leasehold interest on a property be sold at public auction.

Berger stated in the complaint that the mortgage at-issue was

executed by the defendants on Feb. 16, 2006.

Berger said the real property at-issue to be foreclosed is the couple's 55-year leasehold interest on a lot.

The lawyer said the original loan was \$111,724.28, but that as of Feb. 20, 2008, defendants still owe the bank \$101,156.59.

He said that on Feb. 20, 2008, a notice of default was issued by plaintiff as required by the law and hand-delivered to Teach.

"Greater than 30 days has elapsed since service of the notice of default upon the defendant and yet defendants have failed to cure the default," Berger said. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

## Governor calling on community to attend special mass for Bishop Camacho

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial is calling on the community to attend a special mass this Tuesday morning at 6am at the Mount Carmel Cathedral to pray for Bishop Thomas Camacho's health as he un-

dergoes surgery in Hawaii.

Bishop Camacho, 74, left for Hawaii in March to undergo extensive medical examination to diagnose potentially cancerous lesion in his right lung.

Fitial is especially encouraging graduates of 1964 to attend the special mass this Tuesday.

The governor is an alumnus of the school and is part of the class of 1964.

Camacho was ordained as a

priest on June 14, 1961.

He was ordained bishop in 1985 and is scheduled to submit his resignation to Pope Benedict II upon turning 75 on Sept. 18 this year. *(Rianne Pangelinan-Brown)*

## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

May 05, 1999

### CUC: No power rate cut

Calling a legislated rate reduction as "disaster," the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation has warned lawmakers against forging ahead with their plan to lower the cost of electricity for residential and commercial users on the island by an average of 25 percent. CUC Chairman Juan S. Dela Cruz said the proposal would throw the utility corporation back to government subsidy as its financial standing would suffer with lower power rates.

### Envoy sees investment opportunities in CNMI

Philippine Ambassador to the United States Ernesto Maceda yesterday said the Northern Marianas offers investment opportunities to Filipino businessmen in agriculture, computer and construction. Maceda said former Philippine National Bank Governor Ed Espiritu has also recommended providing privately-funded agriculture development to the CNMI which many locals are not keen on venturing into.

### Chamber, HANMI step up campaign for fair wage act changes

After examining the proposed implementing rules and regulations of the Resident Workers Fair Compensation Act, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce and the Hotel Association of Northern Mariana Islands yesterday renewed their calls for public hearing so that the CNMI government can consider their suggested amendments to the law. In separate letters sent to House Speaker Diego T. Benavente, Senate President Paul Manglona and Labor and Immigration Secretary Mark Zachares, the two organizations warned that failure to consider the recommended changes in Public Law 11-74 would result in gross inequities.

May 05, 2000

### Teno presses for cleanup of PCB

The Northern Marianas government will demand complete and extensive cleanup of the polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contamination in Tanapag to ensure safety for village residents, according to Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio. "I will not be satisfied until it has been resolved and they have cleaned up the area of contamination," he told reporters in an interview yesterday.

### CDA offers business counseling to distressed clients

With the anticipated persistence of low economic output this year, the Commonwealth Development Authority is taking measures to assist local entrepreneurs weather dwindling business turnout due to weaker consumer confidence. Business experts at the development authority have been mobilized to conduct counseling sessions with the agency's clients who may be in search for ways to survive the economic contraction, thereby, continue paying their loans from the CDA.

### NMC contests Eucon's 4-year college courses

The Northern Marianas College yesterday questioned the authority of a religious educational institution on Saipan to offer four-year college degree courses in the absence of a license from the NMC Board of Regents. Due to its opening of four-year college programs this school year, Eucon International College is facing legal inquiry by the Attorney General's Office following claims by the NMC Board of Regents that the religious institution has not obtained any license from the body.

May 05, 2003

### CUC board amends Telesource contract

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s Board of Directors unanimously approved Friday to amend its existing contract with Telesource, allowing the private firm to use its power plant equipment on Tinian as loan collateral for another project. The board's decision, however, is subject to possible change depending on the Attorney General's final recommendation on the contract amendment.

### Borja, Guerrero lose tempers, make amends

Tension filled the conference room of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. Friday morning when Board member Joaquin Borja of Tinian blew his top, openly accusing board chairman Frank Q. Guerrero of "not doing anything" on important issues. The Board of Directors was discussing the proposed amendment to the existing contract with Telesource on Tinian when Borja pointed out the CUC board chair's "indecisiveness" and CUC deputy executive director Bernard Villagomez' "insubordination."

**Northern Mariana Islands RETIREMENT FUND**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to 1 CMC, Division 9, §9910, Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez, through the NMI Retirement Fund Board of Trustees/Workers' Compensation Commission/Group Health & Life Insurance Trust Fund, are hereby giving notice that the Board of Trustees will hold a Special meeting on **Tuesday, May 06, 2008 and May 07, 2008 at 8:30 a.m.** at the NMI Retirement Fund Conference Room, Saipan.

**AGENDA**

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
  - A. Call to Order
  - B. Roll Call
  - C. Adoption of Agenda
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- III. OLD BUSINESS**
  - A. RFP08-046 – Wrap Consultant / Custodian / Securities Lending Services
  - B. Employer Contribution Rate
- IV. NEW BUSINESS**
  - A. Reappointment of Committee Chairpersons
- V. EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- VI. MISCELLANEOUS**
  - A. Announcement(s)
  - B. Next Meeting
  - C. Adjournment

/s/ **JUAN T. GUERRERO**  
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 • Fax: (670) 234-7144 or 235-7147  
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**Position: Accountant II**  
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to PL 27/05 - \$23,706.21 P/A Closing Date: May 13, 2008

**Position: Accountant III**  
Salary: PL 29/01 - \$21,506.41 Opening Date: April 29, 2008  
to PL 29/05 - \$26,131.39 P/A Closing Date: May 13, 2008

**Location: COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, SAIPAN**

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with employment application form, during regular working hours at the CDA Office in Gualo Rai Saipan or the Office of Personnel Management during working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

Applicants are requested to submit their original application and supporting documents to the Office of Personnel Management in Garapan, Saipan no later than 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 13, 2008.

Inquiries may be directed to Christy N. Kintol, Office Manager, at (670) 234-6245 or by email to administration@cda.gov.mp.

/s/  
Oscar C. Camacho  
Acting Chief Executive Officer



# Beautify CNMI to air new commercial next week

By RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN  
rianne\_pangelinan@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

In an effort to raise awareness on the effects what littering can do to the islands, Beautify CNMI is scheduled to air its new commercial next week on KSPN 2.

The commercial which took two weeks to complete, depicts

three young characters who ultimately miss out on doing some fun things because they are helping to keep the islands beautiful by participating in the BCNMI clean ups.

The narrator states that three characters could not attend soccer practice, a birthday party, or a baseball game because they were picking up other people's

trash. The commercial also reminds the community that littering is illegal in the CNMI.

The script, which was written by CVI-Creative Visuals International president Cory McRae, was submitted to Beautify CNMI proponent Cinta Kaipat and volunteer Angelo Villagomez for input.

McRae specializes in video production, promotions, and media consulting. Before coming to Saipan, he worked for the FOX Network in Kansas City, MO, as a promo producer.

McRae, who produced the commercial, worked in collaboration with Mike Tripp president of Mike Tripp Productions.

According to Tripp, the reason for the commercial is the

importance for people to realize that many people give up countless hours of their own time to try and pitch in an help tidy up the environment.

"They are trying to make the CNMI a better place to live and visit. Ultimately with tourism our number one industry we need to keep our attraction beautiful," Tripp said.

McRae used video that he shot from a baseball game, birthday party and soccer games.

The videos were then edited together with still shots of children that would help bring across the message that because people continue to litter, it affects the community.

Adults and children "are missing fun activities because

they are cleaning up the trash left behind," McRae said.

Tripp said that every time an individual litters, "they not only disrespect the environment but they also take away from our islands economy. After all, if the litter continues, it is only a matter of time before all those precious tourists find a more desirable tropical island destination. Then what do we do? Thus, littering is everyone's business and needs to stop."

Tripp added that Beautify CNMI wanted to dispel the rumor or sentiment that those participating in the BCNMI clean ups are doing it because it is fun.

"In fact one of the things we

discussed when developing the concept was the fact that the first commercial looks like everyone is having too much fun," Tripp said.

He said one of the frustrations everyone who goes out to clean up the island week after week has to deal with is the fact that the littering never stops.

"Some think that those who litter may do so in part because they know someone else will clean up after them. We wanted to send a strong message that everyone at BCNMI would actually rather be doing something other than cleaning up trash in their spare time. We also wanted to remind people that littering is illegal," he said.

## Take Care Insurance is newest major sponsor of 2008 MMAC

The 2008 Marianas March Against Cancer Committee is pleased to welcome Take Care Insurance as the newest major sponsor for the 2008 MMAC.

To become a "major sponsor" a business must donate between \$1000-\$2999 in monetary or in-kind goods. Take Care Insurance joins other 2008 MMAC major sponsors Shell Marianas, Younis Arts Studio, Saipan Mayor's Office, Angil Design, HANMI, Pacific Trading Company and Staywell Insurance.

The 2008 MMAC title sponsors—companies who have donated \$3000 or more in monetary or in-kind donations—are Duty Free Shoppers, PTI, Joeten Charitable Foundation, Northwest Airlines, Bank of Guam, Sorensen Media Saipan, Power 99 and 97.9 The KAT.

Things are gearing up for the annual Marianas March Against Cancer, the largest fundraising event in the CNMI that supports the battle against cancer. The MMAC is the signature fundraising event for the Commonwealth Cancer Association, a volunteer-led non-profit organization that ensures all funds raised are spent locally.

Last year the MMAC raised over \$80,000. The Committee hopes to surpass that amount this year to help promote cancer prevention and awareness programs and to support cancer patients. Cancer is one of the leading causes of death in the CNMI and the world and the MMAC is just one way of showing our support in the seemingly endless battle against this terrible disease.

The 2008 MMAC will be held at the Hopwood Junior High School Track & Field in Chalan Piao on May 16-17 from 6pm to 6am. The entire community is encouraged to come down to the MMAC for what promises to be a fun night for the whole family to enjoy. There will be live entertainment, food and drinks for sale, fun and games for children and adults, and a booth with cancer statistics available for anyone interested. There are raffle prizes to be won including free tickets

to anywhere in Asia and the U.S. courtesy of Northwest Airlines. There will also be a digital camera, cell phones and other great raffle prizes courtesy of PTI.

Luminaries are currently being sold to the general public so that we may remember those who have lost the battle against cancer, and so that we can honor those who have survived or are currently suffering from this affliction. Luminaries can be bought for only \$5.00 each. To purchase a luminary or for more information please email Kim A. Concepcion at kimconcepcion@yahoo.com or Francella O. Iginoef at franzzy\_7@hotmail.com.

So far there are 15 teams participating in the 2008 MMAC in three different categories: *Puti'on* (Corporate): Pacific Islands Club, Tan Holdings Corp., PTI/Marianas High School, Hyatt, Bank of Guam/Garapan Elementary School and Marianas Health Services; *Pulan* (Family): Ahu, Bodig and Magi; *Atdao* (NGO/Government): Marriage Encounter, Frenz Gi Hinemlo, Hinemlo (DPH) and Northern Marianas College; *Napu* (School): Grace Christian Academy and Whispering Palms.

On the evening of the 2008 MMAC a dinner banquet will be provided for all cancer survivors who wish to attend. Seats are limited so please contact Nora Sablan at 235-0998 or via email at norasablan@gmail.com to confirm your attendance.

The proclamation declaring May 12-16, 2008 as "Marianas March Against Cancer Week" will be signed by Lt. Gov. Timothy Villagomez today, May 5, 10am at the Northwest Airlines Check-In Counter, Saipan International Airport. The public is invited to attend.

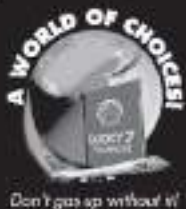
For more information, please contact any of the above mentioned MMAC Committee members, visit [www.cca-marianas.org](http://www.cca-marianas.org) or email Chris A. Concepcion at [chrisaconcepcion@gmail.com](mailto:chrisaconcepcion@gmail.com) or Catherine Attao at [attao20@yahoo.com](mailto:attao20@yahoo.com). (MMAC)

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# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

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AP The Associated Press

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## EDITORIAL

### Strike from afar

**T**omahawk missiles fired by a U.S. Navy ship demolished a house in central Somalia on Thursday and killed a vicious militia leader and al-Qaida operative. It was a victory for the Bush administration's counterterrorism operations in Africa — and a demonstration of the limits of a strategy based almost entirely on "over the horizon" military strikes.

Aden Hashi Ayro, the man who was killed, deserved the label of "evildoer." As chief of the extremist al-Shabab militia, he supervised and probably participated in the murder of foreign aid workers, teachers, an Italian nun and a British journalist while directing al-Shabab's insurgency against the shaky, internationally backed Somali government. As al-Qaida's chief liaison in the Horn of Africa, Ayro coordinated the movements of militants and money, and he sheltered several of the suspects in the 1998 bombing of two U.S. embassies in East Africa. His death is at least a temporary setback for al-Qaida and al-Shabab — which was recently designated a terrorist group by the State Department — and might even make it easier for more moderate Islamic leaders to participate in peace talks that the United Nations is trying to set up.

But Thursday's U.S. operation had a distinct downside: At least two dozen other people were killed in the attack, some of them apparently civilians. Al-Shabab responded defiantly, and Somalia-watchers said new leaders for the militia and al-Qaida will quickly come forward, while fresh recruits may be gained through a backlash against the American intervention. The attack was the fifth U.S. airstrike in Somalia aimed at individuals with al-Qaida ties since the beginning of 2007. While at least one other operative was killed, some of the attacks appear to have missed their targets while injuring civilians.

Somalia itself, meanwhile, has grown steadily more dangerous. The government, which is backed by Ethiopian troops, has lost ground to Islamist and tribal insurgents, and fighting has destroyed a large part of Mogadishu, the capital, while displacing up to 60 percent of the city's population, or 700,000 people. Famine is a distinct danger: The United Nations says that 2.6 million Somalis are in need of food aid and that the number could rise by the end of the year to 3.5 million — half the country's population. The State Department has been supportive of the U.N. attempt to start peace talks, but most of the limited U.S. resources devoted to the country have been aimed at tracking down and killing al-Qaida leaders and their allies.

Somalia is a cautionary example for those who, like Barack Obama, favor rapidly withdrawing U.S. forces from Iraq and managing any threat from al-Qaida with an "over the horizon" strike force. Such forces indeed have the ability to target and kill leaders. They do nothing, however, to change the conditions under which al-Qaida finds refuge and recruits. As Gen. David Petraeus is demonstrating in Iraq, successful counterterrorism requires providing security for the civilian population, economic reconstruction and the brokering of political accords — in other words, nation-building. That's as true in Somalia as it is in Iraq.

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## Is it too late to save our economy?—Part 1

**B**asically there are two ways to conquer a nation. One is through military conquest such as happened in the past to the CNMI and to many other countries. We have had the Spanish period, the German period, the Japanese period, and now the American period. We have survived all of these "occupations." However, it is the second way that really crushes a country because it saps all desire from its citizens to work. It is also much more subtle in destroying the will of the people to overcome hardships.

This other more devastating way to conquer a nation is through control of its economy. This is what is happening to us today. We are being conquered through economic domination from outside forces. Economic domination control means that a group of people whether foreigners or locals control the flow of money and businesses in that country. As a result the ordinary citizens of the country engage less and less in their economic future. They prefer to let others operate the businesses. It creates a form of dependence on outside forces for economic activity. Let's examine how this operates in the CNMI's economic picture.

For the past hour I have been paging through the telephone directory trying to find how many different businesses are local or foreign owned. Sadly, I found that the majority of the businesses are foreign owned with a sprinkling of local ownership. Why should that concern you and me? It should be of great concern to us. Let's examine a few of the businesses that we should be operating but prefer not to, leaving them to be dominated by foreigners.

There are about 70 beauty shops. I have been told that several of them are owned by residents. Good! But I have to ask: Of those owned by locals, how many of the owners are actual beauticians or barbers? Anybody know? If the nonresident workers were to be sent home how many of these shops would remain open?

Of the more than 70 auto repair and service shops, how many of them outside the auto dealers with repair shops are actually operated by local skilled trained mechanics? Of all the air-conditioning companies operating here, how many are owned and operated by locally trained and skilled owners. I know of one—Torres Refrigeration. Are there any others?

There are over 100 grocery stores including markets. Only a handful is owned by locals such as Carmen Safeway and, of course, Joeten Enterprises. I know that there are a few other stores locally owned, but not more than perhaps five or six. We could keep asking this question about almost any other small businesses in Saipan. The answers would be the same.

I also fully realize that we local people have never been small business owners. Our history shows that we have almost always been land owners who leased the land to foreigners. We are still doing this and as a result are losing, if not already have lost, economic

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.*



control of our economy. This lack of desire to be a small shop or business owner must change.

When the garment industry was in full swing, taxes were coming in because of import and export duty levied on the material imported and exported. Taxes were levied on about 30,000 garment employees. Thus the budget bubbled around \$270 million, give or take. Then when the bubble burst and the garment industry left so did its tax money along with employees' tax money. Currently there are about 3,000 or less garment workers on island—a drop of 90 percent! Where is the tax base?

When the tourist industry leaned on about 700,000 tourists per year, money flowed both in circulation and in taxes. Now that the tourist industry is around a dubious 400,000 tourists per year, taxes and money have been greatly reduced. But what most of us do not realize about the tourist industry is that many of the optional tours that tourists buy from many tour agents are not being reported as income. The sale is done strictly on a cash basis and no record is kept. This is also a common practice in many other small businesses. The sale is not recorded. As a result hundreds of thousands of dollars monthly that should be collected as gross revenue taxes are not reported as income for tax purposes. Who loses? The government and us.

I have often questioned why this is being allowed to happen. No one seems to want to go after these tax evaders. All I get is a mumbo-jumbo reply. The best answer I got was: "We don't have the personnel." I offered to go into the collection business for 5 percent of what I would collect, but was refused. So the drain continues. What a great loss of tax revenue!

The other day the Census reported that 28 percent (4,480 families) of the 16,000 households in the CNMI had an income less than \$10,000. Twenty-nine percent (4,640 families) had an income of \$10,000 or more but less than \$20,000. About 13 percent (2,080 families) had an income of \$20,000 or more but less than \$30,000. Twenty percent (3,200 families) had an income of \$30,000 or more, but less than \$60,000. And 10 percent (1,600 families) had an income of \$60,000 or more.

See IS IT on Next Page



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## DEATH BY A THOUSAND CUTS

# The bleeding Retirement Fund

As I write about the Legislature's "chipping" away at the members' retirement fund I'm reminded of the slow Chinese torture (Ling chi), "Death by a Thousand Cuts." The cuts are small at first but there are so many, death soon follows from the slow hemorrhaging. This is the bleak future of the Retirement Fund made even worse by the law just passed last Friday by the Legislature which permits borrowing from the Fund to purchase fuel for CUC. It's not clear if the "loan" will earn interest. Let's hope so.

The latest cut, done with the shard of a Legislative mirror reduces the government's employer pension contribution from 18 percent to 11 percent for fiscal year 2008 and no doubt beyond. As is so often the case, it's an old Legislative trick make the law appear to be short lived in the beginning—then, when no one is looking extend the duration. You know how political mirrors work—"now you see it—now you don't." As far as the Fund is concerned—"now you have it—now you don't."

As done with their mirrors—the 7 percent left over from the original 18 percent of the employer's contribution goes to CUC to purchase fuel. In the State of the Commonwealth address the governor was quoted in the *Tribune* as saying, "There are no funds available in the Commonwealth to subsidize CUC."

But I would add—"meaning no funds other than those of the government's employer contribution to the Retirement Fund."

The Senate President was even quoted in the *Tribune* as saying, "Everybody should take blame for the (CUC's) problems."

I would say the retirees are providing more than their fair share of the Legislature's "blame."

But with the creative use of mirrors the central government and the lawmakers found money to do just that by tapping into the 18 percent which was originally earmarked as the government employer's contribution to the Fund.

Now I don't doubt for a minute that the power situation on Saipan is critical—and a solution is needed. But, in the opinion of this observer, this legislative solution is shortsighted to the extreme detriment of all the Fund's members.

In a nutshell it's—borrow money from the Fund—make it available to CUC as a dubious loan which no bank ever would touch—CUC then burns up both the fuel and the money—and voila—shortly thereafter—no Fund, no money, no power—back to square one still not having solved the basic problem.

Such action provides only a temporary reprieve—a useless band-aid which doesn't stop the Fund's hemorrhaging and doesn't solve the power problem.

As I peer through the tall grass and the droppings within I'm astonished that the Legislature believes that retirees' money should be used to provide power for the entire community when they themselves failed to take the necessary measures to do so by solving this "black and white" issue long ago. It seems to me that the recent action of the Legislature by passing the law is tantamount to "legislative larceny."

If you are a retiree—what do you think?

We have been down that road before with the government's cockamamie attempt in 2006 to borrow \$40 million for use by CUC. See my piece hosted on the *Tribune's* "search bar" entitled, "Power & Politics—What Does The Future Hold For Current & Future Retirees?"—Part #2 dated Aug. 10, 2006. That's how long they have been trying to tap into the retiree's money.

The last attempt by the administration to borrow from the Fund raised a furor among the retirees—some members in the Legislature must have forgotten.

The administration and the Legislature have already cut the financial legs out from under the Fund by "stiffing" it for millions of dollars and now have the audacity to borrow what should be routed into the members' investment portfolio—not CUC smoke stacks. It's the equivalent of "financial emasculation."

If that's not grounds for another lawsuit—I don't know what is!

That stated, I'm not aware a public hearing was held on this retirement

issue. Is the NMI a democracy or is it "GIPE" (Government Interest in Political Expediency) as in "gyp").

For a solution other than taking the money from the Fund—why not consider selling off portions of government owned housing to fund CUC's "black hole"?

Those houses are not generating any income and most are a drain on government maintenance funds as well while some have been allowed to deteriorate.

Considering the Article XII restriction, the property could still be held within indigenous ownership.

Better still—secure the Fund's loan to the government (not CUC) with Navy and Capitol Hill housing and other building assets. Or even the land lease on one of the golf courses or the government-owned land along the lagoon upon which several major hotels are situated and paying rent (hopefully).

Everyone knows the government's reputation for nonpayment of its obligations—so what else is new.

Since when are loans granted without adequate collateral? If the Legislature expects the Fund to serve as a bank then by all that's right, just and proper the Fund should demand that the borrowed funds be adequately secured for the members' protection. Something the Legislature with its "cracked" mirror failed to consider.

Since when are loans granted without adequate collateral? If the Legislature expects the Retirement Fund to serve as a bank, the borrowed funds be adequately secured for the member's protection.

The Legislature's knee-jerk reaction in passing the above bill without adequate and thorough professional study of the ramifications concerning the Fund is nothing more than a temporary blood transfusion for CUC—which is a dying patient and now the law making body wants to take what's left of the members' retirement to the grave with it. It's simply outrageous disregard for the retirees, their surviving dependents and widows.

I don't find in the legislation where the drafters of the bill allowed for repayment to the Fund by factoring in the interest that could have been earned for the retirees if the money had been invested in the money market rather than burned up by dilapidated, antiquated, oil guzzling inefficient generators. Maybe they don't understand finance. Did any of the lawmakers anticipate that without the payment of interest the money paid back to the Fund (if indeed it is ever paid) will, as a result of inflation, have less purchasing power than when it was first burnt up by CUC?

It should be obvious that continued reliance on oil is not—and never will be—the answer particularly as several energy experts have stated it could go as high as \$200 a barrel. Actually it's not that oil is so expensive—it's that the value of the dollar is becoming increasingly worthless relative to foreign purchases. This is a result of U.S. government policy which is too involved for me to discuss here—in—but it's one more reason to purchase American produced items.

A coal-fired generator is one possible solution which may well be

\$3.05 back in 2006. Meanwhile, 1,299 of them were in the construction industry. While 3,014 were in the service industry. How does a government build a tax base on those low wages?

A total of 15,806 unskilled workers were listed. Of this number there were 1,648 private maids earning less than the minimum wages. There were 617 farmers earning the same as maids. The hotel industry had 819 nonresident workers also earning low wages. Please explain where the taxes are to come from when the minimum wage is so low?

There are too few jobs generating cash flow into the local economy. Don't forget that almost \$80 million is given from the United States yearly to the CNMI to prop us up. This is a subsidy to us and not taxable. In plain words this money is a yearly gift of which we do little to earn. Yet many of us complain about the unfairness of the

By **WILLIAM H. STEWART**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

*William H. Stewart is an economist, historian, and military cartographer.*



reasonable and viable if the strangle hold of "environmental purists" can be broken and "trade-offs" accepted.

I find it surprising that Interior's Office of Insular Affairs, an agency that professes to want to assist the NMI, hasn't indicated an interest in supporting an examination of the feasibility for such a power generating conversion. Equally surprising is the apparent lack of interest on the part of the central government and the Legislature in even considering such a request considering some of the most powerful men in the U.S. Senate are from coal-producing States. I have in mind Robert C. Byrd (D W.Va.). Coal for their constituency is like tourism is for the NMI—it keeps them in office. Coal is mined in 27 states.

As a side note—when I called the office of Senator Byrd to obtain some of the above information and mentioned Saipan—the first remark made by staff was, "Is that the island once associated with Jack Abramoff?"

How's that for name recognition and knowledge of the NMI!

A U.S. Senator from Montana has stated that the United States has enough coal to last the country for the next 200 years. Almost 50 percent of all electric power generated in the country is produced from coal followed by 19.3 percent by nuclear and 18.7 percent from natural gas. All power generated in the U.S. from coal now meets EPA's environmental emission regulations of the Clean Air Act.

As near as I can figure the equivalent of steam generated electricity sent out from one ton of coal is 2.65 MWh. I don't know the Saipan CIF cost per ton of coal since it depends upon such things as the quality, i.e., BTU content, the quantity purchased at any particular time, port of export and other factors to numerous to list here-in. The concept for the conversion of oil to coal fired steam turbine generators is not a simple solution as the port would need modification for unloading and a storage area would be required to bunker the coal. This is the reason that a detailed financial feasibility analysis to evaluate the cost and benefit characteristics of such a proposed project is first required.

The NMI will never be able to purchase a Middle East oil well—but it can arrange, or even own, a source of supply for coal for its power generation. If the Legislature doesn't encourage such an analysis—it could be the death of the NMI as we have come to know it and the return to the days of the Trust Territory—which some feel is already rapidly taking place.

The condition of the Fund is an appropriate metaphor for the entire economy—"going broke in a hand basket."

As a result of my frequent "op-ed" pieces which appear in the media—I wish I could share the scores of mail comments I receive from retirees and employees not yet retired reflecting their utter disgust with many of their elected officials. However, the confidentiality of their statements and opinions will not allow me to do so.

But I will say on the basis of what they tell me—the people are truly fed up with the Legislature's and government's abuse of the Retirement Fund.

Their day for "sweet revenge" is coming—so they indicate to me.

Perhaps the Fund should be renamed as "CUC's Savings & Trust Bank." But then at the rate it's resources are being dissipated—it will soon have no savings and I leave it the retirees to consider if CUC can be trusted. Another name might be "The Legislature's Piggy Bank of the Commonwealth."

## IS IT

From Page 10

If you look at the tax structure base, the high income tax payers are not there. So collection of taxes will remain low. After the government does collect taxes in the mirror image of the United States tax system, anywhere from 75% to 90% will be refunded later. So how much remains for the government as tax income to supply the needs of its people?

At the latest count back in September 2006, there were 21,922 nonresident workers on Saipan. Of these about 5,310 of them were considered skilled workers. Their average earnings were about

United States towards us.

I don't understand why there is not a serious debate to raise the minimum wage as soon as possible so that our local people will want to work. Why does our governor keep arguing against raising wages? Why doesn't he champion the betterment of our people to make a more decent living wage? Why is he so opposed to federalization?






Unless we begin to understand how our economy is affected by using non-resident workers instead of us citizens doing the work ourselves, the economy will never bounce back. Also we must understand that every time we invite foreign investors and do not become a part of that investment project, we become one step closer to dependency on outsiders. To be continued next week.



Sattelite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼75°	▲85° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Sunny	▲86 ▼76
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼78
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲87 ▼77
Chuuk	Mostly Cloudy	▲87 ▼77
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼74
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲88 ▼75
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼73

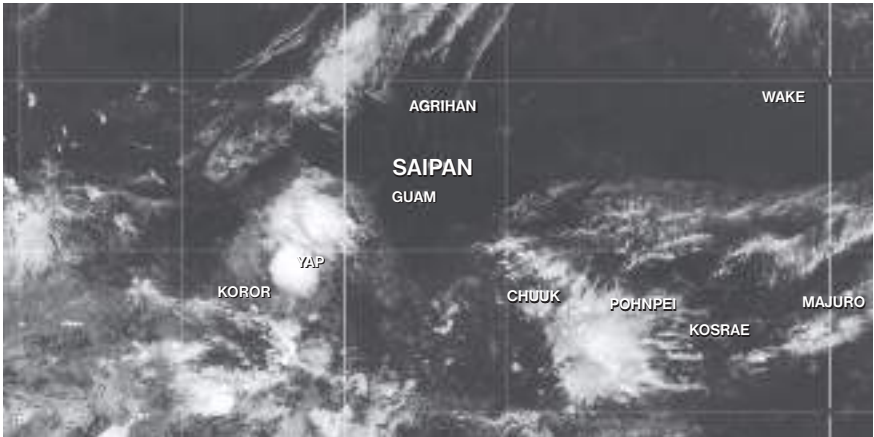
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Thunderstorms	▲63 ▼51
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲79 ▼60
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼75
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲81 ▼72
London	Showers	▲66 ▼56
Los Angeles	Partly Sunny	▲70 ▼57
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲92 ▼81
Melbourne	Partly Sunny	▲64 ▼51
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲86 ▼70
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲70 ▼52
Osaka	Rain	▲71 ▼56
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲68 ▼54
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲75 ▼54
Rome	Showers	▲71 ▼49
Salem	Partly Sunny	▲66 ▼43
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲68 ▼50
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲69 ▼46
Tokyo	Rain	▲70 ▼57
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲73 ▼52

### Tides

Saipan Harbor		
1:07AM Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
6:31AM Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
1:35PM Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
8:23PM Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2008  
Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends southwestward across the discussion area from 25N147E to 19N138E then continues as a shearline to 18N130E and beyond. Extensive cloudiness, patchy rain, and a few thunderstorms are occurring along and up to 200 miles northwest of the cold front. Scattered showers associated with the shearline are found within 70 miles of a line from 17N130E to 19N139E. A nearly stationary front heads westward from 23N180 to beyond 25N at 170E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring well northeast of Wake Island between 23N and 25N from 174E to 180. A monsoon trough runs eastward from 8N130E through a circulation centered east of Koror near 8N136E, then turns southeastward through another weak circulation centered near 5N145E to end at EQ 151E. Convergent west winds south of the trough axis are generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Koror between the equator and 7N from 130E to 142E. Convergence associated with the circulation near Koror is causing numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms within 160 miles of 10N137E. Scattered showers associated with the second circulation are seen within 80 miles of 6N146E and also within 60 miles of a line from EQ143E to 4N145E. Trade-wind convergence east of the monsoon trough is firing up scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over Chuuk in an area bounded by a line from 10N151E to EQ153E to 1N164E to 6N160E to 6N157E to 10N154E back 10N151E. Trade-wind convergence is also triggering scattered showers from south of Kosrae to Majuro within 110 miles of a line from 2N163E to 8N175E and east of Tarawa atoll within 70 miles of a line from 2N175E to 3N180.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:52AM	6:36PM
Tuesday	5:52AM	6:36PM
Wednesday	5:51AM	6:36PM
Thursday	5:51AM	6:36PM
Friday	5:50AM	6:37PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:08AM	6:20PM
Tuesday	6:01AM	7:28PM
Wednesday	7:00AM	8:37PM
Thursday	8:04AM	9:44PM
Friday	9:11AM	10:45PM

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
  - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS  
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
  - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS  
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
  - BUSINESS  
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
  - SAMU'T SARI  
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
  - TRAVELOGUE  
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
  - COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN  
Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

#### REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
  - Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
  - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
  - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
  - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

#### HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan  
To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

#### POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 8, 2008

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>Saipan-Rota</b> CO 9313 8:30am 9:05am 3,4,7	<b>Rota-Saipan</b> CO 9598 11:10am 11:45am 1,2,6
<b>Saipan-Guam</b> CO9317 4:00am 4:50am Daily CO9597 8:30am 9:20am 1,2,5,6 CO9313 8:30am 10:00am 3,4,7 via Rota CO9601 12:30pm 1:20pm Daily CO9603 3:30pm 4:20pm Daily CO9605 6:30pm 7:20pm Daily CO9599 9:30pm 10:20pm Daily	<b>Guam-Saipan</b> CO 9316 2:30am 3:20am Daily CO9596 7:00am 7:50am Daily CO9598 10:15am 11:45am 1,2,6 via Rota CO9600 10:45am 11:35am 3,4,5,7 CO9602 2:00pm 2:50pm Daily CO9604 5:00pm 5:50pm Daily CO9606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily
<b>Saipan-Narita</b> NW 078 8:40am 2:00pm Daily via Nagoya  NW 075 4:45pm 7:25pm Daily	<b>Narita-Saipan</b> NW 076 10:15am 2:50pm Daily NW 077 6:25pm 1:25am+1 Daily via Nagoya
<b>Saipan-Osaka</b> NW 083 4:20pm 7:10pm Daily	<b>Osaka-Saipan</b> NW 084 10:30am 3:05pm Daily
<b>Saipan-Nagoya</b> NW 078 8:40am 11:25am Daily	<b>Nagoya-Saipan</b> NW 077 9:00pm 1:25am+1 Daily
<b>Saipan-Manila</b> CO 895 4:45pm 6:35pm 6 CO 895 6:45pm 8:35pm 3	<b>Manila-Saipan</b> CO 890 9:15am 2:55pm 6 CO 890 11:45am 5:35pm 3
<b>Saipan-Seoul</b> OZ 604 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ 604 2:50am 6:30am 2,3,4,5,6,7 OZ 606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2,4,6,7	<b>Seoul-Saipan</b> OZ 605 9:00am 2:30pm 2,4,6,7 OZ 603 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ 603 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1,2,3,4,5,6
<b>Saipan-Busan</b> OZ 608 3:50am 7:20am 1,4,5,7	<b>Busan-Saipan</b> OZ 607 9:30pm 2:50am+1 3,4,6,7
<b>Guam-Manila</b> CO 891 6:00am 10:30am 3 via Yap and Koror  CO 893 6:30am 8:05am 6 CO 893 8:25am 10:00am 2,7 CO 893 5:50pm 9:10pm 5 via Koror CO 933 7:00pm 8:40pm Daily PR 111 6:00am 7:45am 1,2,4,6,7	<b>Manila-Guam</b> CO 894 11:20am 4:55pm 2,7 CO 894 7:45pm 1:20am+1 6 CO 892 9:45pm 6:30am+1 3 via Koror and Yap CO 892 10:10pm 5:30am+1 5 via Koror CO 934 10:55pm 4:30am+1 Daily PR 110 10:15pm 4:00am+1 1,3,5,6,7
<b>Saipan-Guanzhou</b> CZ 3008 5:00am 8:00am 2,6	<b>Guanzhou-Saipan</b> CZ 3007 8:00pm 4:00am+1 1,5
<b>Guam-Hongkong</b> CO 909 6:40pm 9:25pm 1,5	<b>Hongkong-Guam</b> CO 910 10:35pm 5:15am+1 1,5
<b>Guam-Rota</b> CO 9598 10:15am 10:45am 1,2,6	<b>Rota-Guam</b> CO 9313 9:30am 10:00am 3,4,7

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern  
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily	FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily	FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily	FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily	<b>Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**</b>			
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily	FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily	FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily	FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily	FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>				FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily	FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily	FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily	FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily	FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily				
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily				



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



## Letter to the Editor

# A lot of mis-, dis-, and non-information on proposed Trench monument

**W**as there ever a project that had so much to offer, that got so thoroughly maligned through mis-, dis-, and non-information, and that got so hastily and misguidedly dismissed as the Pew Trust's proposed trench monument? The Legislature's joint resolution rejecting the monument is "proof of the pudding," as they say.

Full of baseless fears, ignorance-based defensiveness, and outright prejudice, the joint resolution leaps to conclusions that simply have no basis in fact, or reason.

The biggest piece of misinformation that the federal government is unilaterally planning on taking over the waters surrounding the CNMI's three northernmost islands. The fact of the matter is that the federal government has not yet even begun to consider whether it might want to establish a monument in the Northern Islands.

According to Jay Nelson, Director of the Global Ocean Legacy under the Pew Environment Group, the U.S. executive branch has let it be known that it might be interested in establishing another monument, similar

to the one just declared in Hawaii, sometime this year. Criteria for selection would include the viability of the site, its value, and the existence of local support. The federal administration has not yet taken any further action.

In follow-up to that information, several non-governmental organizations began looking at possible candidates for a monument designation. The Pew Charitable Trust is one of them. Thinking that the Marianas Trench, the only feature of its kind in the whole world, together with the near-pristine waters surrounding the northern islands, would make a good candidate, Jay Nelson came out to the CNMI to assess its potential.

According to Nelson, the time crunch is that the NGO's have now been told that by the end of May the U.S. executive branch intends to begin reviewing and assessing sites that have been identified by the NGOs for their suitability as monuments.

It bears repeating: except to say, "we are thinking about establishing another monument somewhere," there has been no other federal decision, or action.

Nor will there be any occasion for the federal government to take action, or to make deci-

sions, until and unless the CNMI's northern island area is chosen for monument status at which point negotiations would be undertaken with the federal government on the specific terms and conditions under which the monument would operate.

Another misapprehension has to do with control of the waters surrounding the three northernmost islands. It should be remembered, first of all, that at the moment, the CNMI does not control any of the waters surrounding any of its islands. There has been a court decision that those waters are under federal jurisdiction. The U.S. Congress offered to give the CNMI jurisdiction over waters up to 12 miles out, but the Fitial administration refused the offer in the naive belief that it could acquire control to the 200 mile limit, through, as I recall, litigation and lobbying. There has been no progress on that front, and none is in sight.

The monument declaration would give the CNMI a voice in controlling the waters up to the 200 mile limit in that the CNMI would be, as I understand it, an equal partner in determining what would be allowed to take place within the 200 mile limit.

Moreover, with the federal government officially involved, it is a safe assumption that the U.S. Coast Guard would bring in at least one boat—at no cost to the CNMI—to help patrol those waters.

That a monument designation  
**See A LOT on Next Page**



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Power Generation



### INVITATION FOR BIDS COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION CUC-IFB 08-004 - INSTALLATION OF RADIATORS

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting sealed bids for the INSTALLATION OF RADIATORS at the Power Plant 1, Lower Base in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Sealed bids shall be identified on outside of the envelope by Invitation for Bids No. "CUC-IFB 08-004, INSTALLATION OF RADIATORS at the Power Plant 1". Bids in six sets (including original) will be accepted at the Procurement and Supply Office, CUC, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan until **2:00 P.M., on, May 30, 2008**, at which time and place will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid documents can be picked up from the office of CUC Procurement and Supply upon payment of a non-refundable fee of \$150.00 until **4pm, May 23, 2008**. Only the bidders who have paid the fee will be allowed to submit a bid proposal. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the procurement regulations of the CUC.

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury. A performance and payment bond of hundred (100%) percent each of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety for proposal security. No advance payment will be authorized on the project.

The bidder is required to submit with his proposal a COPY of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. This project will be funded through a grant from the US Department of Interior (DOI). The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page - <http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi/cnmi.htm>. The contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

The project consists, in general the installation of the CUC supplied radiators at the power plant for engine units no. 5 and 6 at Power plant 1. The radiators are manufactured by CBM Technologies Pty. Ltd. and are expected to be available at the power plant facility by July.

**A mandatory pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at 10:00 A.M., on May 15, 2008**, at the CUC Power Plant Conference Room, Lower Base, Saipan, immediately followed by plant visit.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the interest of the government.

All inquiries should be directed to Mr. Manny Sablan, Procurement and Supply Manager and Mr. Venugopal, Flower Generation Engineer email at [msablan@cucgov.net](mailto:msablan@cucgov.net) / [venu@cucgov.net](mailto:venu@cucgov.net) or through / or through Fax - (670) 235-5131

ANTHONY C. GUERRERO  
Executive Director



## Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Department of Public Health Division of Public Health



# ANNOUNCEMENT

The CNMI WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Program is pleased to announce the expansion of services to the island of Tinian beginning May 9, 2008. WIC staff will travel to Tinian at least twice per month to deliver services after this date. Applications may be picked up at the Tinian Health Center starting May 2, 2008. Please contact the Saipan WIC Clinic at 236-8750/8758 to schedule an appointment.

The CNMI WIC program has had a successful beginning, growing to approximately 2400 participants since the program began in August 2007. The WIC program is continuing to build capacity. CNMI WIC is currently building a new clinic on Navy Hill, Saipan and plans to expand to the island of Rota later this year. In the interim, USDA regulations (7 CFR Part 246) require that the CNMI WIC Program prioritize its current waitlist.

Effective immediately, the CNMI WIC Program will enroll eligible applicants in the following categories:

- Pregnant women
- Infants (0-12 months)
- Breastfeeding women (up to 1 year postpartum)

Postpartum, non-breastfeeding women and children ages 1-5 may be placed on the waiting list if requested. However, the Program does not have the capacity to make immediate appointments for children or postpartum women at this time, including those children who are reapplying because their current certification period has expired. As appointment slots become available, those placed on the waiting list will be contacted.

We appreciate your patience as we work to serve the community and the participants who are need of WIC services the most. If you are currently on the waitlist for children ages 1-5, please be advised that the Program will contact you as slots become available; however, we will not be able to predict when that would be.

As a reminder to current participants, please be advised that current enrollment does not guarantee continued enrollment in the program. Current participants must go through another certification. Appointments will be made according to the priority listings.

For more information about the CNMI WIC Program, please visit our website at [www.cnmiwic.org](http://www.cnmiwic.org).

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider.

Joseph Kevin P. Villagomez  
Secretary, Department of Public Health

Josephine K. Tudela  
Director, CNMI WIC Program



## COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

P.O. Box 502149, Saipan MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 • Fax: (670) 235-7147  
Email: [administration@cda.gov.mp](mailto:administration@cda.gov.mp) • Website: [www.cda.gov.mp](http://www.cda.gov.mp)



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS SUNSET VILLA BEACH COTTAGES

The Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) is soliciting proposals for the sale of the **SUNSET VILLA BEACH COTTAGES Lot No. 105 R 01, located in Sonton Rota**. The property spans 6,422 square meters and contains 14 unit rooms of 6 cottages, 4 deluxe and 4 super deluxe rooms all with ocean view.

The sale shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Minimum bid - \$750,000.00.
2. Sale will be granted to the highest and or best offer.
3. Sunset Villa is being sold at its current condition, "**AS IS**".
4. Sunset Villa is being sold "**WITHOUT WARRANTY**" of any type.
5. CDA reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to withdraw this notice and postpone the sale from time to time.

Interested party or person may contact Oscar Camacho, Acting Chief Executive Officer (ACEO) at 234-6245 for further information and Nanette Atalig, at 532-9408 to inspect the property. Failure to inspect the property will not constitute grounds for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer. All sales are final.

All proposals received will be opened at 4:00 p.m. on May 14, 2008 with the winner to be announced at a later date. Upon award, offerer is required to make a non-refundable deposit of 10% of the total price offer. Payment must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card.

Interested party or person is asked to submit their proposal at the CDA Saipan Office in a sealed envelop identified as "Sunset Villa Proposal" to Mr. Oscar C. Camacho, ACEO. Deadline to submit bid is **4:00 p.m. Monday, May 14, 2008**.

Dated this 14th day of April, 2008.

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

/s/ Oscar C. Camacho  
Acting Chief Executive Officer



## Letters to the Editor

## Ang kahulugan ng terminong ‘coalition’

Para po sa kaalaman ng nakarami. Ako din po ay hindi kabilang sa ano mang organisasyon ngunit pakiramdam ko po kailangan kong ipahayag ang aking opinyon tungkol sa sulat ng ating kababayang si Bb. Sherilyn Francisco ng Susupe, Saipan.

Kinailangan kong basahin ng makailang beses ito para maintindihan ko kung ano po ang kanyang ibig iparating. Sa aking personal na pananaw ay dapat nagsubok na kinontak nya si Bb. Irene Tantiado o isa sa mga miyembro ng the “Coalition” kasi yung kanyang isinulat ay punung-puno ng pahayag na pagkalito mula simula hanggang sa matapos.

Una, eto ang ibig sabihin ng salitang “Coalition” na aking

nahanap sa Internet: *Coalition* *An alliance of political groups formed to oppose a common foe or pursue a common goal.*—American Heritage New Dictionary of Cultural Literacy, Third Edition. <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/coalition> Meaning of coalition (noun) form plural: coalitions alliance; union; agreement - <http://www.english-test.net/toeic/vocabulary/meanings/159/toeic-words.php#coalition> COALITION.

PAGKAKAISA Sa isang taong sinasabing isa siyang tahi-mik na manggagawang pilipino, dapat ay kinausap niya si Bb. Tantiado upang hayaang bigyang linaw ang tunay na layunin ng “Coalition” bago magsulat sa pahayagan. Kung hindi ako

nagkakamali, makailang beses din nabanggit ni Bb. Tantiado ang kanyang email address para sa mga taong may tanong o “concerns” tungkol sa grupo. Hindi po ba’t mas nakahihyang maghayag ng opinyon hindi pa nakikita ang kabuuang bahagi ng kwento o napakinggan ang magkabilang panig upang mas maintindihan ang hindi maunawaan at nagpapagulo ng ating isip?

Nakasama na po ba siya sa isa sa mga pulong ng grupong kanyang ibinabanggit upang sabihing ang grupo ay gumagawa ng dahilan ng pagkakahiwalay at pagkakawatak-watak ng mga manggagawa? Hindi po ba’t mas nakakahiyang mabasa ng ating mga kababayan sa sarili nating wika ang kanyang isinulat na sa aking pananaw ay lalong nakalilito sapagkat ito’y nagpapahayag ng mga opinyon walang basehan? Ako po ay sumasang-ayon din sa paniniwala nya na ang pagkakaisa ang malakas na sandata

para maisulong ang mga magagandang layunin. Kaya nga po sila ay nagtatatag nang “Coalition of United Guest Workers” upang muling magkaisa ang lahat ng sumali at sumuporta sa “Unity March” upang mas lalong maipakita na tayong lahat ay nagkakaisa at may iisang layunin na ipinaglalaban at iisang interes na pinuprotektahan. Wala po akong nakikitang nakakahiya sa ginagawa ni Bb. Tantiado.

Bilib po ang nakarami sa kanya at sa iba pang hindi natatakot na magsalita at ipaglaban ang sa kanyang pananaw ay tama at parehas para sa lahat. Ganyan po ba ang tingin natin sa mga taong walang ginagawa kundi maging boses ng sam-bayanan na pinaglalaban ang karapatan ng kanyang kapwa? Upang sila’y makilala at mag-

ing popular? Hindi po yata nara-rapat na pag-isipan ng masama ang taong ang tanging layunin ay makatulong sa kapwa...

Ako po ay may isang tanong kay Bb. Sherilyn Francisco. Ang naunang grupo po ba na inyong binabanggit ay ang Dekada na pinamumunuan ni Gg. Boni Sagana? Kung hindi po ako nagkakamali, sa akin pong pagkakaalam ay sila po ay kasali sa grupong iniimbitahan na makiisa sa “Coalition”. Sa dahilang aking nabanggit na layunin ng grupo na magkaisa muli ang mga taong nakibahagi sa makasaysayang “Unity March”.

Papaano pong inyong sinasabi na ang ginagawa ng Coalition ay magkahiwa-hiwalay ang manggagawa? Mensahe po kay Bb. Irene Tantiado. Hiling ko po ay sana mailathala ninyo po ang layunin ng inyong itinatag

na organisasyon upang maliwanagan ang ating mga kababayan at maiwasan na ang mga hakahakang wala namang matibay na batayan. Sana po ay magkaroon tayo ng bukas na pag-iisip sa lahat ng bagay mapaito’y may kinalaman o epekto sa atin o hindi.

Hindi po masamang magtanong at wala pong walang kwentang katanungan. Upang maiwasan po ang hindi pagkakaunawaan tayo po sana ay magkaroon ng bukas na komunikasyon at malawak na pag-iisip upang sa gayon ay maipagpatuloy natin ang pagkakaisang ating minimithi. Kay Bb. Irene Tantiado at sa mga bumubuo ng Coalition. Mula po sa aming puso, Maraming maraming salamat po.

**Dianne Francisco**  
*As Perdido, Saipan*

## We’re talking—PEW isn’t listening

Dear Pew Charitable Trusts (PEW),

If I’m not mistaken, PEW was involved in developing the proposed NMI Monument without our advice or input in Washington, D.C. over a year ago. PEW came to the CNMI, hired a lobbyist, and then started promoting your monument idea in hopes the people of the Marianas would support your grand plan of establishing—forever and ever—a “no-take” Marine Protected Area (MPA) that covers over 115,000 square miles of water within the CNMI’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). We have been told repeatedly that the proposed PEW Monument would be based on the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands National Marine Monument (NWHI Monument) model and that we need to act soon before President Bush leaves office.

In my opinion, there are **at least** three fatal flaws with the PEW Monument idea. They are:

1. The complete and permanent prohibition of all commercial, recreational and subsistence fishing activities within 1/3 of the CNMI’s EEZ;
2. The complete and permanent prohibition of all oil, gas, and mineral extraction activities within 1/3 of the

CNMI’s EEZ; and

3. The complete lack of scientific justification and total disregard of recognized scientific protocol in the design of the “no-take” MPA (i.e., PEW Monument).

Possibly a hundred presentations have been made by the PEW lobbyist and many of us have sat through multiple presentations in an effort to fully understand the issue. Opposition to your monument idea has been expressed at both public meetings and in the local papers on at least two of the above-mentioned fatal flaws. Every time these issues are brought up, PEW supporters shine us on or change the subject—generally—to some future unknown federal government budget that the CNMI will probably receive. I have seen no effort by PEW to genuinely discuss the CNMI’s concerns over fishing and other extraction rights within **our** EEZ. Case in point is when Mr. Jay Nelson (PEW Director – Global Ocean Legacy) was asked by a concerned Chamber of Commerce board member (presentation held on March 26, 2008) whether fishing activities could perhaps be negotiated within monument waters. I heard Mr. Nelson respond that he didn’t think the

CNMI would want to allow any fishing in the monument—end of discussion.

Please keep in mind that it was PEW who approached us—the stakeholders in the Marianas—with your monumental travesty. Our governor and a majority of our legislators have made it known officially that they do not agree to the establishment of a very large “no-take” MPA encompassing 115,000 square miles of our EEZ. Letters to the editor show dissent and controversy within the community over this issue. In spite of strong opposition against the monument, PEW wants to continue dialogue to straighten out the so-called misconceptions that people have with their monument idea. It appears to me that PEW is confusing “misconceptions” with our right to disagree with PEW. How can PEW not see that a majority of islanders in the Marianas simply do not support their “no take” MPA and do not believe it’s a good idea?

Opponents to the PEW Monument have expressed our basic concerns over and over, but PEW simply isn’t listening or doesn’t care.

**John Gourley**  
*Navy Hill, Saipan*

These will be discussed in subsequent columns.

In all fairness to all the people of the CNMI and to the future wellbeing of the CNMI, the legislature should promptly recall its joint resolution against the monument, so that the CNMI stands some chance of being nominated as a candidate. It could file, as a face-saving measure, a substitute resolution expressing some concerns about the control of the northern waters, but nevertheless endorsing further exploration of the viability of declaring the three northern islands and the waters surrounding them a national monument.

**Ruth Tighe**  
*Tanapag*



**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**  
**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**



**INVITATION TO BID**  
**NMHC IFB08-007**

*This ad is paid for with HUD funds.*

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, hereby give notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids for the **CONSTRUCTION OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS JAPAN CULTURAL CENTER PERIMETER PATHWAY/GROUTED ROCK RIPRAP/SITE LIGHTING** in Garapan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Interested individuals or firms may pick up a copy of the Project Package beginning Friday, May 2, 2008, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI and austerity holidays. A non-refundable payment of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by money order or cashier’s check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

Bidders are advised that this project is subject to compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act and the labor standard provisions for wage rate determination of the Commonwealth. All labor on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate of \$3.55 per hour which took effect on July 25, 2007 as established by U.S. law. Bidders are further advised to participate the increase of \$.50 per hour that is scheduled to take effect on May 26, 2008.

A **mandatory pre-bid conference** will be held at **10:00 a.m.** on **Monday, May 12, 2008**, at the Northern Marianas Japan Cultural Center in Garapan, Saipan next to the Garapan Central Park, and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to walk through the proposed project site, familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders’ understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

Sealed Bids must be marked **NMHC ITB-08-007**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director, Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m., local time, May 23, 2008**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, May 23, 2008 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or via e-mail to [procurement@pticom.com](mailto:procurement@pticom.com). For bidders located outside of the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U. S. Postal Service or the official government postal service no later than May 23, 2008 AND must be received by Procurement and Supply no later than June 4, 2008. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, June 5, 2008. However, if no Notices of Intent to Bid are received from bidders outside of the CNMI, the bids will be opened at 10:30 a.m., local time, May 23, 2008.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be in the form of a Certified Check, Cashier’s Check, or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: “Construction Portion for the Landscaping of the NM Japan Cultural Center Project”. Surety companies must hold a Certificate of Authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, “Local Business Preference” is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with NMHC and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment Bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. Pursuant to Governor’s Directive 251 dated March 15, 2006, bidders are required to include a Clearance from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner with respect to the financial bonding capability of the bidders’ chosen Surety.

Performance time for completion of this project is Ninety (90) calendar days. Liquidated damages will be assessed at Five Hundred Dollars (US\$500.00) per calendar day for delays beyond the established completion date.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) provided to the Commonwealth. This project is also subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 which requires recipients of HUD funds and the contractors to help insure that the economic opportunities generated by these HUD funds are provided to local low-income residents and the businesses that serve them “to the maximum extent feasible.”

NMHC hereby notifies bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, women and small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, and disability status.

All documents received shall be the sole property of the NMHC with the exception of the Bid Bond, Certified Check, or Cashier’s Check, which will be returned to the proposers after the acceptance and award of contract to the successful contractor.

The Government reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any defects in the said proposals, if in the sole opinion of NMHC, to do so would be in its best interest. All proposals will become the property of the Government.

/s/ **Manuel A. Sablan**  
**NMHC Board Chairman & Contracting Officer**

/s/ **Herman S. Sablan, Director**  
**Division of Procurement & Supply**



# Business

## Microsoft abandons Yahoo bid

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Microsoft Corp. has withdrawn its \$42.3 billion bid to buy Yahoo Inc., scrapping an attempt to snap up the tarnished Internet icon in hopes of toppling online search and advertising leader Google Inc.

The decision to walk away from the deal came Saturday after last-ditch efforts to negotiate a mutually acceptable sale price proved unsuccessful.

Microsoft was willing to pay \$47.5 billion, or \$33 per share, up from the bid's current value of \$29.40 per share, according to a letter from Microsoft Chief Executive Steve Ballmer to Yahoo Chief Executive Jerry Yang.

But Yahoo demanded at least \$53 billion, or \$37 per share, according to Ballmer. That would have been nearly double Yahoo's stock price of \$19.18 at the time Microsoft first made its bid a little over three months ago.

"Clearly a deal is not to be," Ballmer wrote.

A spokeswoman for Sunnyvale-based Yahoo didn't immediately return a call seeking comment.

The decision to walk away came as a surprise, given that many analysts believed Microsoft wanted to close the deal badly enough to either sweeten the offer or pursue a hostile takeover—a risky

maneuver that would have required an attempt to replace the Yahoo board that spurned rejected the bid.

But Ballmer said he concluded that pursuing a so-called proxy battle was "not sensible."

"Our discussions with you have led us to conclude that, in the interim, you would take steps that would make Yahoo undesirable as an acquisition," Ballmer wrote to Yang.

But Yahoo hasn't necessarily faded from Microsoft's crosshairs.

The software maker conceivably could renew its bid later this year if Yahoo can't bounce back from more than two years of financial lethargy.

## NYC food maker recalls over 286K pounds of meat, poultry

NEW YORK (AP)—A New York food company is recalling more than 286,000 pounds of meat and poultry because it might be contaminated with the bacteria *Listeria monocytogenes*.

The voluntary recall includes several different brands of fresh and frozen products made by Gourmet Boutique, the U.S. Department of Agriculture said Saturday.

Included are some types of chicken salad and sandwiches sold under the name Gourmet Boutique, and several frozen wraps and burritos sold under the names "Jan's" and "Archer Farms."

The problem was discovered through sampling by federal food safety inspectors and Florida agriculture officials, the USDA said.

There have been no reports

of illnesses associated with the recalled foods so far, but the bacteria can potentially cause Listeriosis, an illness that can cause high fever, headache and nausea. People with depressed immune systems could also suffer a fatal infection.

Gourmet Boutique said in a recorded phone message that it had made "environmental changes" at its plants to prevent a repeat of the problem.

### NOTICE REGARDING CNMI GOVERNMENT GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE

There will be an **"Open Enrollment"** for the CNMI Government Group Health Insurance Program from May 01 through May 30, 2008. Any employee or retiree not currently enrolled or who desire to change benefits or add a dependent may do so during this open season. **Those employees who are already enrolled and do not wish to make a change in their current enrollment are not required to take any action.**

CNMI Government Group Health Insurance Enrollment forms are available at any of your Retirement Fund Offices in Saipan (322-8026), Tinian (433-3733) or Rota (532-9516). Completed forms must be submitted to the Retirement Fund Offices no later than **May 30, 2008.**



Part-Time position available for our Saipan location. Applicant must have extensive knowledge of PCs. Position involves diagnosing and repairing personal computers and also customer service. Background in electronics a plus.

## Computer Technician

- Requirements:
- US permanent resident
  - Must be able to lift heavy objects
  - Friendly and self-motivated
  - Excellent communication skills
  - Dependable transportation



**234-7368**

### Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana Ofisinan I Gubietno Dipattamenton I Tano' Pupbliku

#### NOTISIA POT PLANON MA-ATKILAN TANO PUBLIKO

Segun i tineteka na patte gi Lai Publiko 15-2, i Depattamenton Tano ha publilika planon para uma-atkila tano publiko guine giya Nottle Marianas. Todo membron publikon iya Marianas libre man-nahalom opinion pot este na plano 'sino otro hinasso pot priniponen atkilon maseñala para uma-atkila na tano publiko.

I mapropone na atkilon ma-deskribe komo Lot No. 002 E 03 `nai guaha 4,619 metro kuatdrao; Lot No. 002 E 04, i dinañkuloña 4,622 metro kuatdrao; yan, Lot No. 012 E 03, dinañkuloña 3,060 metro kuatdrao, poko mas o' menos. I mapan este na tano publiko gaige gi Depattamenton Tano.

I aplikante i kompanian Huang Zheng Corporation, Ltd., un `kompania guine giya Marianas. A presidenten este na kompania si Señor Quan Huang. Si Mr. Huang kontratistan este na atkilon ya inasiste as Señor Tony Reyes.

Si Mr. Huang para u usa i lugat para bisnis lulog, alumimum, yan papet katton, lugat para materiat siha (warehouse), manbenden materiat para mahatsan guma, bisnis produkton tase yan man-repean boti.

I tetminon atkilon para bente siñko (25) años ya siña marinueba para kinse (15) años mas na tiempo. I atkilon siempre uma-detetmina akuanto pot sientto kada sakan segun i maprepara na ripot balin este siha na tano. I mapropopone na kontratan atkilon siña in `rikonose gi maseha mano na offisinan Depattamenton Tano entalo Luta, Tinian yan Saipan. I Depattamenton Tano trabiha ti man-resisibe otro planon uson este siha na tano publiko.

I Sekretarion Depattamenton Tano listo para u resibe opiñion publiko pot uson este siha na tano antes de Mayu 14, 2008.

#### ARONGORONG REEL POMWOL AKKILONUL FALÚWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil ye 106 (b) mellól Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap ekke atotoowow am-mataf igha ebwe akkilaaló eghús falúw mellól Seipel, Commonwealth Téél Falúwasch Marianas. Schóókka eyoor máfiyeer rebwe isisilong aghiyeghiir, aweewe, aingiingil reel pomwol akkilonul ammwelil falúweer toulap. Me bwal Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, e ayooora, lamal aweewe kka rebwe mweiti ngáli milikka ebwe akkatééló.

- Pomwol akkilonul falúweer toulap nge ekke bwaári Lot No. 002 E 03, eyoor faawu sangaras olabwughuw seigh me tiwoow llapal (4,619 square meters), elapeló me ngáre eghús, Lot No. 002 E 04, eyoor faawu sangaras olabwughuw reweigh me ruwoow llapal (4,622 square meters) elapelo me ngare eghus me Lot No. 012 E 03, eyoor eluuw sangaras oleigh llapal (3,060 square meters), elo Lower Base, Seipel. Tilighial bwuley yeel nge eyoor mereel Bwulasiyool Falúweer Toulap (Public Lands) ngare óubwe ghuley fischiy.
- Schóól akkilon nge Huang Zheng Corporation., CNMI corporation LTD. Mr. Quang Huang nge ii schagh Samwoolul (President) corporation yeel.  
  
Schéschéél samwoolul corporation yeel nge Quan Huang.
- Schóól aweweel akkilon nge Mr. Quan Huang fengal me alillisil Mr. Tony A. Reyes.
- Schóól akkilon ebwe ayooora bwuley reel recycling, sookko, wiisal tenda matiriyóód, retail/wholesale reel mwungol leaset, me ammwelil bwoot.  
  
Tool aighúghúl pomwol akkilon nge reweigh me limoow ráágh (25 years), emmwel rebwe sóbweey ngáli bwal seigh me limoow ráágh (15 years).  
  
Meel akkilon yeel nge ebwe mwir sáangi llapal méél falúw (value of the property).
- Emmwel bwe tilighial akkilon óubwe bwughil mellól bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap, elo aruwowal pwó (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) me Joeten Dandan Commercial Building llol Dandan, Seipél; aruwowal pwó (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) mellól Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Luuta; me ngáre mmwal pwó (1<sup>st</sup> floor) mellól Kings Commercial Building, Tchúlúyól.
- Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge esáál bweibwogh mwo bwal eew pomwol akkilon ye elo Lower Base, Seipel..
- Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge ebwe bwughil ischil mángemáng, aingiingil mereel amweyút mmwal schagh Ghuuw (May) 14, 2008 mellól Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap iye elo Seipél, Luuta me ngare Tchúlúyól.

#### NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public lands in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

- The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot No. 002 E 03, containing an area of approximately 4,619 square meters, more or less, Lot No. 002 E 04, containing an area of approximately 4,622 square meters, more or less, and Lot No. 012 E 03, containing an area of approximately 3,060 square meters, situated in Lower Base, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcels is available at the Department of Public Lands for inspection.
- The prospective lessee is Huang Zheng Corporation., Ltd., a CNMI corporation. Mr. Quan Huang is the sole director of the corporation.  
  
The president of the corporation is Mr. Quan Huang.
- The proposed lease was negotiated by Mr. Quan Huang with the assistance of Mr. Tony A. Reyes.
- The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of developing and operating facilities for recycling, a warehouse, retail of hardware materials, retail/wholesale of seafood products, and boat repair and maintenance.  
  
The term of the proposed lease agreement is 25 years, with an option to extend the lease for an additional 15 years.  
  
The proposed annual rental during the term is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property.
- A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Rota; or the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.
- The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Lower Base, Saipan.
- The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before May 14, 2008 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.



## Nation

# Survivors of tornado search for belongings

**DAMASCUS, Ark. (AP)**—Smoke rose from burning heaps of wreckage Saturday as residents of rural Arkansas cleaned up what was left of their homes after deadly tornadoes scoured a state that has been plagued by severe weather this year.

All that remained of Shelia Massey's home were a chimney, a bathroom wall, and a bathtub that was her storm shelter.

"God's hand came down and held us there while the rest of the house just blew away," said Massey, 54. "That's all there was to it. The Lord held us there."

A child poking through the rubble found a photograph of Massey's husband, who was not at home when the violent weather struck Friday. The storms killed seven people, damaged or destroyed about 400 homes, and knocked out electrical and telephone service for thousands of customers in 18 counties.

Altogether, meteorologists said more than 25 tornadoes may have touched down across middle America late Thursday and early Friday, but Arkansas was the hardest hit.

Down U.S. 65 from Massey's house, parishioners at Southside Baptist Church salvaged what was left of their old sanctuary and their new church, still under construction.

Men backed up pickup trucks to the front door of the old church and loaded up boxes filled with red-leather hymnals. The storm had collapsed the roof of the their new sanctuary, bending its steel beams like sipping straws.

In the countryside outside Damascus, John Rusin, 62, said he and his wife, Marsha, 60, took shelter in a small room along with two dogs after forecasters broke in on a television show they were watching.

Winds almost ripped a mattress out of his arms as he held it over his wife, he said.

"The pressure on it felt like my ears were going to pop off my head," he said.

Only after the storm passed did he realize it had picked up their house and moved it 65 feet off its foundation.

Public officials offered comfort and support. U.S. Rep. Vic Snyder, D-Ark., and a staff member shook hands with volunteers cleaning the church, and Gov. Mike Beebe toured damaged areas. He has declared 11 counties disaster areas.

National Weather Service teams were sent out to survey damage for their count of the tornadoes, and state emergency management workers helped county officials with damage assessments. Arkansas National Guard members were on hand to provide security.

## Democrat wins congressional seat long held by Republican

**BATON ROUGE, La. (AP)**—A Democrat won a special congressional election here Saturday, bolstering his party's majority status on Capitol Hill by taking a seat Republicans have held since 1974.

Don Cazayoux, a lawyer and state lawmaker, beat Republican Woody Jenkins to cap a race that Democrats viewed as a chance to further tighten control over Congress. The seat opened when Republican Richard Baker, a 20-year incumbent, resigned to take a lobbying job.

With all precincts reporting, Cazayoux had 49 percent of the vote to 46 percent for Jenkins, a community newspaper publisher. Three independents combined to take 5 percent.

The congressional district

includes Baton Rouge and surrounding parishes.

"People in Louisiana are hungry for a new direction in Washington," Cazayoux said in a written statement issued by his campaign.

Meanwhile, Republicans retained a seat as expected in another special election held in the 1st Congressional District in suburban New Orleans.

State Sen. Steve Scalise easily beat Democrat Gilda Reed, taking 75 percent of the vote to 22 percent with all precincts reporting. Two independent candidates captured the remainder of the vote. The seat was formerly held by Republican Bobby Jindal, who resigned in January before being sworn in as governor.

Coming in the middle of a presidential cycle, the Cazayoux-Jenkins race attracted attention and money from Washington interest groups and the national parties.

"It's of enormous national significance," said Dane Strother, a Washington-based Democratic consultant. President Bush won 59 percent of the district's vote in 2004, he noted.

"If we take yet another Republican seat, a seat that has been considered safe for years, then every 59-percent district is at play," he said. The race didn't generate great interest among voters: turnout was about 24 percent, according to unofficial figures released by the secretary of state's office.

## Asia



In this photo released by China's Xinhua News Agency, medical workers take a medical examination for a young patient at No.2 People's Hospital of Fuyang City in east China's Anhui Province Thursday, May 1, 2008.

## China orders heightened efforts to prevent spread of deadly virus

**BEIJING (AP)**—China on Sunday raised the death toll to 24 following the outbreak of a virus in another province a day after the Health Ministry ordered heightened efforts to stem the spread of infectious diseases.

Official Xinhua News Agency said an 18-month old boy who died in Foshan city in Guangdong Friday had died from enterovirus, known as EV-71. Another child who died in the district on April 25 also tested positive, it said. The deaths follow the 22 that have already died

in central Anhui province, 1,000 miles to the north.

Stepped up vigilance by health bureaus and hospitals to prevent the spread of infectious diseases was necessary "to guarantee the smooth staging of the Beijing Olympics and Paralympics and to ... preserve social stability," said the order posted on the ministry's Web site.

Prompting the government to act was an unusual jump in cases of the enterovirus, known as EV-71, in Fuyang, a fast-growing city set in the rural heartland of central China.

As of early Saturday, 3,736 cases of EV-71 were reported in Fuyang's mainly rural outskirts, a rise of 415 in about 24 hours, health officials said. Besides the 22 deaths, 1,115 people remain hospitalized, 42 of them in serious or critical condition, said the health department of Anhui Province, where Fuyang is located.

State-run television footage showed workers spraying disinfectant around houses in rural areas outside Fuyang and medical teams visiting families with small children.

## Olympic torch arrives on safer terrain in mainland China

**SANYA, China (AP)**—The mainland China leg of the Olympic torch relay started in the southern province of Hainan on Sunday on what is expected to be a peaceful three-month journey to Beijing.

State television showed the start of the torch run in the seaside resort of Sanya. It begins what organizers and ordinary Chinese have promised would be a national tour free of the protests and last-minute route changes that haunted the torch along its international route.

The torch relay will wind through every province and region of China before arriving in Beijing several days before the start of the Olympics on Aug. 8.

The start of the route was lined with crowds waving the Chinese flag.

The first torch carrier was Yang Yang, a gold medalist in short-track speed skating at the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympics.

Actor Jackie Chan and basketball star Yi Jianlian were also to be among the 208 people carry-

ing the torch Sunday along palm tree-lined roads looking out over the South China Sea.

Four-time Olympic table tennis gold medal winner Deng Yaping said carrying the torch was an honor.

"You can run fast, you can run slowly, or you can walk. What matters is you are passing down the Olympic spirit," said Deng, who is also on the Olympic organizing committee.

Organizers and police did not give details on security measures.



### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Mississippi mill explosion kills 1 worker and injures 17

**JACKSON, Miss. (AP)**—An explosion tore through a paper mill Saturday after a boiler was inspected, killing a contract worker and injuring 17 others, the company said. The explosion occurred as a boiler at the International Paper mill was being started after an annual maintenance shutdown in Redwood, about 30 miles west of Jackson, company spokeswoman Amy J. Sawyer said in a statement. "We have accounted for all IP employees, and no employees were hurt. An investigation will be conducted to determine the cause of the accident," she said. No details were available about the contractor who was killed, Warren County deputy coroner Kelda Baileiss said. Five of the injured were being transferred late Saturday night to a burn center in Atlanta, said Hazel Hill, nurse supervisor at River Region Medical Center in Vicksburg.

#### Ind. teller says gunman prevented co-workers from helping

**INDIANAPOLIS (AP)**—A pregnant bank teller who lost the twins she was carrying after being shot during a holdup choked back tears Saturday as she recalled lying on the bank's floor, bleeding and pleading for help, as the gunman demanded money from her co-workers. Katherin Shuffield, 30, said the masked gunman jumped over her teller station and shot her once in the abdomen April 22 just after the Huntington Bank branch had opened for the day. As she lay bleeding on the floor, she said the gunman, who remains at large, refused to let her co-workers call 911 to get her medical assistance. "I said, 'Please help me! He shot me, he shot me! My babies!' He didn't let anybody do anything because he was more worried about taking the money," Shuffield said during a news conference at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis.



### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### State TV: 5 Myanmar regions declared disaster zones

**YANGON, Myanmar (AP)**—Myanmar's state-run television says five regions including Yangon have been declared disaster zones after Tropical Cyclone Nargis hit the country. The military run Myaddy television station says Yangon, Irrawaddy, Bago, Karen and Mon states all were heavily damaged by Saturday's cyclone, which packed wind up to 120-mph. Witness said the storm knocked out electricity to much of Yangon and disrupted Internet and phone service. The government has not provided any information on casualties or the level of damage to the regions.

#### RP disappointed with Malaysian mediator's comments

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—The Philippine government said Saturday it was disappointed with a Malaysian official for expressing impa-

tience over the slow progress of the peace talks with Muslim separatist rebels brokered by Malaysia. Romeo Montenegro—spokesman for the presidential adviser on the peace process, Jesus Dureza—said the "perceived delay" in the talks with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front is due to the government's need to address "constitutional issues" connected to a Muslim homeland in the country's south. He said in a statement Saturday that Malaysian mediator Othman Abdul Razak's "public display of exasperation and unduly blaming government for the delay is totally unexpected from one who is tasked to facilitate." "We suggest instead to Mr. Othman to stay the course and help the parties through," Montenegro said. He said the government has "continuously explained" to Othman the need for "due diligence to address constitutional issues" concerning a draft agreement on ancestral domain, which include an autonomous Muslim region in the southern Philippines.



# World

## US strike takes out suspected militant hideout in Sadr City

**BAGHDAD (AP)**—The U.S. military fired guided missiles into the heart of Baghdad’s teeming Sadr City slum on Saturday, leveling a building 55 yards away from a hospital and wounding nearly two dozen people.

Separately, the U.S. military said late Saturday that four Marines were killed on Thursday by a roadside bomb in Anbar province. The military also said that a U.S. soldier died of wounds suffered in a roadside bomb that struck the soldier’s vehicle during a combat patrol in eastern Baghdad Friday. At least 4,071 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

AP Television News footage from Sadr City showed several ambulances destroyed and on fire, thick black smoke rising from them as firefighters worked to put out the flames.

## Progress on Israel-Palestinian peace sought

**JERUSALEM (AP)**—Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said Saturday she will ask Israel to remove more physical barriers erected in the West Bank as a bulwark against Palestinian militants.

The Bush administration also would like to see speedier progress toward a political settlement between Israel and the Palestinians, a goal of President Bush in his final year in office, Rice said en route to Israel and the West Bank for weekend meetings.

Bush’s top diplomat said it’s too early for pessimism, despite a lack of obvious accomplishment in talks Bush began with lofty ideals five months ago. Rice suggested she will lean on

## Despite high food prices, Haitians reluctant to leave

**BAIE DES MOUSTIQUES, Haiti (AP)**—When soaring food prices sparked deadly riots across Haiti, many expected that people along the cactus-studded northern coast would do what they traditionally do in times of crisis: take to the seas and head for the United States.

So far it hasn’t happened. In this hamlet overlooking a pristine bay that Christopher Columbus once admired, Gary Boloney has no job and no money. But the rail-thin 38-year-old says that after two failed attempts to flee by boat, the food crisis won’t make him risk it again.

Elsina Joseph, lovingly cradling her granddaughter, is also staying put. She says she can’t

The strike, made from a ground launcher, took out a militant “command-control center,” the U.S. military said. The center was located in the heart of the eight-square-mile neighborhood that is home to about 2.5 million people. Iraqi officials said at least 23 people were wounded, though none of them were patients in the hospital.

The U.S. military blamed the militants for using Iraqi civilians as human shields.

“This is a circumstance where these criminal groups are operating directly out of civilian neighborhoods,” military spokeswoman Spc. Megan Burmeister told The Associated Press in an e-mail.

She said it presents a “complex and very difficult” challenge for U.S. forces to strike the militants when they are “putting themselves next to municipal buildings.”

Dr. Ali Bustan al-Fartusee,

Israel to yank West Bank roadblocks that Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas says strangle the Palestinian economy.

“I understand that everyone—President Abbas, I, the president, would like to see things move more quickly,” Rice said. “That’s why we keep coming and pressing all the parties to meet their obligations.”

Palestinians complain that Israel has played bait-and-switch—removing tiny barriers and calling them roadblocks or only partially dismantling obstacles after pledging to pull them down. Rice said she will question the “qualitative character” of some roadblocks Israel has already removed.

abandon her family. And the mayor, Pierre Belizaire, says people should give President Rene Preval a chance.

In the early 1990s, political violence sent tens of thousands of Haitians toward Florida aboard rickety boats, forcing President Clinton to send in troops to stabilize the country. Now the price of rice, beans, fruit and condensed milk has gone up 50 percent in the past year, while the cost of pasta has doubled.

But the U.S. Coast Guard says its cutters have interdicted 972 Haitian migrants over the past seven months, about the same number as a year earlier. That’s a fraction of the 31,000 intercepted in 1992 after a military coup.

director general of Baghdad’s health directorate, told the AP that 23 civilians were wounded in the strike.

He said no patients in the hospital were hurt, but that some of the wounded included civilians outside on their way to visit patients in the hospital. He also said 17 ambulances were dam-

aged or destroyed.

AP Television News footage showed about 100 people milling about in the rubble of the destroyed building. A deep crater was seen just yards from the hospital, which is surrounded by 15-foot-tall concrete blast walls. It appeared that one section of the blast wall was leveled.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

THE FINANCIAL & INSURANCE SERVICES GROUP, INC.,	:	CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-0053
Plaintiff,	:	
-vs-	:	
JOSEPH A. ARRIOLA and LAURA L. ARRIOLA	:	
Defendants.	:	

**SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION**

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT, LAURA L. ARRIOLA:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is served upon you hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, the Plaintiff’s Attorneys, whose address is P.O. Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

By order of the above court:  
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

DATED, this 17th day of April, 2008:

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION,	:	CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-476
Plaintiff,	:	
-vs-	:	
The Estate of SOLEDAD K. SOMORANG, Deceased, and SUSAN K. SOMORANG	:	
Defendants.	:	

**SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION**

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT SUSAN K. SOMORANG:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is served upon you hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, the Plaintiff’s Attorneys, whose address is P.O. Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

By order of the above court:  
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

DATED, this 18th day of April, 2008:

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION**  
**May 16, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.**

Notice is hereby given, that pursuant to a court ordered **Writ**, issued by the Superior Court in Civil Action No. 05-0257, the Commonwealth Development Authority (“CDA”) together with assistance of the CNMI Department of Public Safety, shall auction off to the highest bidder **Two (2) Boats: (1) a 1977 15.35M, Cabin, Fiberglass Boat, M.V. Hope-Cert. No. CM-953-CF; and (2) M.V. Four Winds-Cert. No. CM-951-CF.** A list, with detailed description of the properties listed may be obtained at CDA’s Office in Gualo Rai.

The auction shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

- The items are being sold **“AS IS”** and **“WHERE IS”**;
- The items are being sold **WITHOUT WARRANTY** of any type;
- The public auction will be held at the **Commonwealth Development Authority, Wakin’s Building, Conference Room, Gualo Rai, Saipan on May 16, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.;**
- The Boats are currently dry-docked at the Port, and may be inspected at any time during business hours which are convenient to CPA, by prior arrangement with CPA;
- The **Buyer** at auction will be responsible for removing boats and complying with any US Coast Guard requirements for their removal within thirty (30) days;
- The **Buyer** at auction agrees that if he or she fails to remove a purchased boat within the prescribed time limit of thirty (30) days, that he or she agrees to be responsible to **CPA** for any boat storage fees which have accrued from the date of the auction;
- Terms of the sale are cash or certified check; and
- CDA reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to withdraw this notice and postpone the sale from time to time.

CDA is attempting to collect a debt and any payments received will be used for that purpose. Any interested party or person may contact Mr. Greg P. Calvo, Loan Officer, CDA at 234-7145 for further information or to inspect the items. Failure to inspect the property will not constitute grounds for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer. All sales are final.

Dated this 29th day of April, 2008

Commonwealth Development Authority  
/s/Oscar C. Camacho  
Acting Chief Executive Officer

VICENTE T. SALAS  
Law Office of Vicente T. Salas  
2nd Floor, UIU Building,  
Chalan Monsignor Guerrero  
San Jose Village  
P.O. Box 501309  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427  
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

F. MATTHEW SMITH  
Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, LLC  
2nd Floor, UIU Building,  
Chalan Monsignor Guerrero  
San Jose Village  
P.O. Box 501127  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427  
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY,	:	Civil Action No. 04-0175D
Plaintiff,	:	
-vs-	:	
TRIPLE A, INC., JOSEPH A. ARRIOLA, and ANTHONY A. ARRIOLA,	:	<b>AMENDED NOTICE OF AUCTION</b>
Defendants.	:	

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Triple A Inc., Joseph A. Arriola and Anthony A. Arriola in the following described real property situated in Rota, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

**Tract 21769-3-4** (formerly part of Tract 21769-3, which was part of Tract 21769, also known as Lot 352 R 01, AH 72), Rota, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 3005/95 the original of which was recorded 16 February 1995 as Document No. 95-384 at Commonwealth Recorder’s Office, Saipan;

**Tract 21769-3-5** (formerly part of Tract 21769-3, which was part of Tract 21769, also known as Lot 352 R 01, AH 72), Rota, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 3005/95 the original of which was recorded 16 February 1995 as Document No. 95-384 at Commonwealth Recorder’s Office, Saipan;

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA’s Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, May 16, 2008**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
- Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
  - To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
  - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
  - To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
- Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Oscar C. Camacho, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or to F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
- Deposit. Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier’s check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer’s rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
- Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of (list all) in the property are being sold **“AS IS”** and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.  
Dated this 14th day of April 2008.

/s/ CLAUDIO K. NORITA, Commissioner  
Department of Public Safety

VICENTE T. SALAS  
Law Office of Vicente T. Salas  
2nd Floor, UIU Building,  
Chalan Monsignor Guerrero  
San Jose Village  
P.O. Box 501309  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427  
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

F. MATTHEW SMITH  
Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, LLC  
2nd Floor, UIU Building,  
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San Jose Village  
P.O. Box 501127  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427  
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY,	:	Civil Action No. 04-0175D
Plaintiff,	:	
-vs-	:	
ISLAND SECURITY SERVICES, INC., JOAQUIN V. GUERRERO and ESTHER A. GUERRERO,	:	<b>NOTICE OF AUCTION</b>
Defendants	:	

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Island Security Services, Inc., Joaquin V. Guerrero and Esther A. Guerrero in the following described real properties situated in Gualo Rio, Saipan, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

**Lot No. 1879 “A”-R4, Lot No. 1879 “A”-4 and Lot No. 1879 “A”-3** (formerly known as Lot No. 1879 “A”-R3), situated in Gualo Rai, Saipan, CNMI, containing an area of 1,389 square meters, 1,073 square meters and 1,072 square meters, respectively, as shown on the Parcel Survey Plat of Lot No. 1879 “A”-R3, DLS Check No. 2153/95, the original of which was filed at the Commonwealth Recorder’s Office, as File No. 95-2194 on September 1, 1995;

and

**Lot No. 1602S-R1**, situated in Gualo Rai, Saipan, CNMI, containing an area of 10,988 square meters, more or less, as particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2171/88;

and

**Lot No. 1879 “A”-R2**, situated in Gualo Rai, Saipan, CNMI, containing an area of 4,142 square meters, more or less, as particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2100/87.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA’s Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, May 16, 2008**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
- Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
  - To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
  - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
  - To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
- Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Oscar C. Camacho, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or to F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
- Deposit. Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier’s check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer’s rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
- Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the titles and properties; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Island Security Services, Inc., Joaquin V. Guerrero and Esther A. Guerrero in the properties are being sold **“AS IS”** and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real properties will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.  
Dated this 22nd day of April 2008.

/s/ CLAUDIO K. NORITA, Commissioner  
Department of Public Safety



## Health &amp; Fitness

## The workout years

By Jeannine Stein

(C) 2008, LOS ANGELES TIMES

Carly Wade is slightly out of breath as she moves through the weight room of Bogifit Youth Conditioning Center, an Anaheim Hills, Calif., gym geared to teenagers. The 15-year-old feels comfortable here, surrounded by people her age and by young trainers and instructors. "Being around older people is kind of intimidating, because they've been working out at a gym longer. Here, I'm working out with kids who are the same level, or higher or lower."

She adds, "Don't get me wrong: Normal gyms are good. ... But as a kid, you want to be fit. And you don't really know how to be fit without trainers."

Conscious of their bodies and aware that pared-down PE classes don't always provide enough activity, some teenagers are looking for places—other than the soccer or softball field—to work out. Gyms are taking notice.

Many commercial gyms offer memberships to teens, and children ages 6 to 17 are the second-fastest growing demographic of health club members, according to the International Health, Racquet and Sportsclub Association. But the teens themselves aren't sure that's where they want to be.

Enter teen-centric gyms. Beginning to sprout on the nation's fitness landscape, they cater specifically to a younger crowd, offering more constant supervision, more video and game-related equipment and less of an age mix than traditional gyms.

Underground Fitness, for example, a youth gym in Scarsdale, N.Y., provides separate workout areas for ages 12 and under,

and for 13- to 18-year-olds. The 5,000-square-foot facility offers personal training, exergaming, plus classes in spinning and boxing. Overtime Fitness in Mountain View, Calif., focuses on teens (only recently allowing adults) with weight training and cardio equipment, classes and exergaming.

Membership at such gyms is far from cheap. Some charge \$100 a month, more than the \$20 to \$40 some big

grams such as yoga.

Mercedes Worman joined the gym after a stint at a Bally Total Fitness. The 15-year-old appreciates the informal, clubby feel of the youth-oriented studio, although Bally had its upside. "They had a lot of equipment there, and it was nice and open," she says. "But there were a lot of old people, and I like to be around people my age. It's a more comfortable environment (at O2 MAX), and I know most

a friend to exercise with—exercised significantly more than their counterparts who didn't have such two-pronged support, according to research published in the May issue of the Journal of Physical Activity & Health.

But working out isn't the same as hanging out. At O2 MAX, cell phones aren't allowed in the fitness area, and the upstairs lounge is off-limits until members have exercised.

Those rules are set and enforced by Karen Jashinsky, the gym's founder and chief executive.

Also a personal trainer who works with adults and teens, Jashinsky says fitness isn't a one-size-fits-all-ages endeavor.

"I wanted to create an open environment and establish a place of trust and communication and encourage them in whatever type of fitness they enjoy," Jashinsky says of her younger clientele. "You have to find the one thing they're willing to start with, and then they get comfortable and are willing to try other things. I wanted to create a space where they can all do different programs."

Patricia Rodriguez's 15-year-old son Diego works out here regularly, although he has PE classes at school and is in a soccer club.

"They get better attention (than at school) because somebody is telling them how to do things and checking their strengths and weaknesses. Also, at this age they don't have much to do after school, and this is very healthy. And they can meet friends here too."

When members sign up, they're given a fitness assessment, asked to keep a brief food diary and provided with a customized workout program and



Carly Wade likes it at Bogifit Youth Conditioning Center in Anaheim, Calif., where there are no older, "intimidating" people, just peers at her skill level.

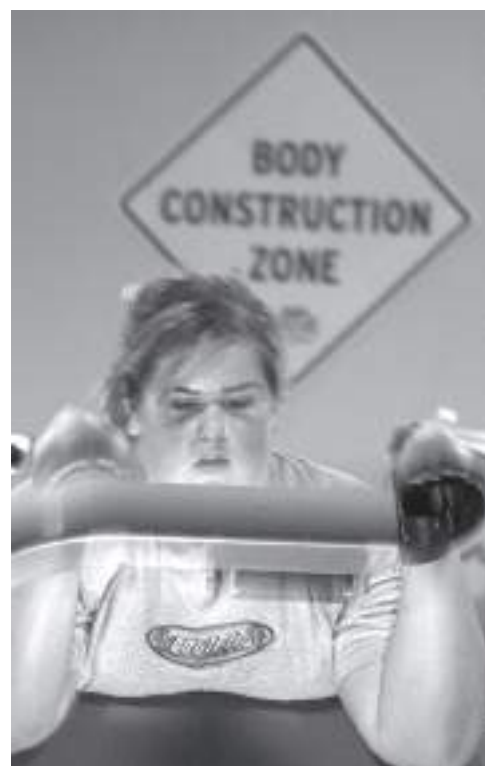
chains charge.

O2 MAX Fitness is right in line with the trend of giving teens their own space to work out. Tucked away in the Santa Monica Studios complex, the funky loft space offers stationary bikes, treadmills, free weights, a cable machine -- and no parents in sight (unless they're picking up or dropping off). The gym, open about two months, specializes in one-on-one and small-group training, for ages 12 to about 20, and plans to add classes and pro-

of the people there."

That desire to be around peers is only natural. "I think adolescents just want to stay with people their own age at this point in their lives," says Dr. Anthony Luke, director of the University of California, San Francisco's Primary Care Sports Medicine. "But they are interested in learning about fitness. ... Being supervised in some way and not being with adults makes sense."

Adolescents who received encouragement from their parents to work out—and who had



John Clinger credits his rise on his football team to his time at Bogifit Youth Conditioning Center in Anaheim, Calif.

general food guidelines. Kids can work out on their own, but an adult trainer is always around to supervise or answer questions. Some members are there to supplement their school athletics; some are there to lose weight and get in shape. Jashinsky says she wants to ensure that, when kids graduate from high school, they know how to exercise on their own. "Even with a lot of kids who play sports, once they stop, they don't know how to be active because no one ever taught them."

At Bogifit, activity is also supervised and semi-structured, with an added emphasis on sports training. The 20,000-square-foot Anaheim, Calif., gym has been open about a year and a half and boasts about 200 members. Membership is open to kids 9 to 18 (and adults during certain hours). Members receive two personal training sessions, after which they can take advantage of speed and agility training, and a general weight training and cardio program monitored by trainers and continually revised to ensure that kids are making progress.

John Clinger signed up last November and credits his time

here (about two hours three to four times a week) to his rise in his Pop Warner football team—he's first string this year. "The equipment is very good," says the 14-year-old, "and all the personal attention you get from the counselors is amazing." It's also a cut above PE at school, which, he says, "is not as organized as I'd like it to be."

"There aren't a lot of options" for teens, says Tom Montanio, one of the gym's owners. "Some do personal training (at other gyms),

but it's very expensive and usually limited to an hour." Besides, he adds, at regular gyms there's the hip factor to consider: "It wouldn't be cool to work out with your parents. And these places are not set up for kids."

Some commercial gyms might beg to differ. "The larger commercial gyms are trying to make (teens) feel more comfortable," says Joe Moore, IHRSA's president and chief executive. "Some have an adult area and a teen area and a family area."

Why court this demographic? "More parents want their children to be exercising and watching their weight," he says. And, he adds, "the younger a person starts, the more they're likely to be a member for a long time."

Although some kids are motivated enough to press their parents for a gym membership, sometimes it's the parents who do the pressing—and that, says Montanio, doesn't always work out, with kids eventually quitting.

But 15-year-old Rachel Featherstone says coming to Bogifit three or four times a week has helped her drop 11 pounds, gain muscle and feel better overall. "I'm more comfortable with my body now."

## FDA says wider use of Cephalon drug carries risks of misuse

WASHINGTON (AP)—Government regulators on Friday said encouraging wider use of a powerful painkiller made by Cephalon Inc. raises the risk of potentially fatal misuse of the drug.

Shares of the Frazer, Pa. drugmaker fell \$2.7, or 4.2 percent, to \$60.72 in morning trading.

Cephalon's drug Fentora is already approved to treat severe pain flare-ups in cancer patients. On Tuesday FDA will ask a panel of outside experts

whether it should be approved to treat pain in non-cancer patients, a larger market that includes those suffering from back and nerve pain.

But FDA took a cautious tone in draft questions posted to its Web site Friday, stating that "Fentora has attributes that make it particularly attractive to abusers" and questioning whether broader approval would "lead to widespread abuse."

FDA is not required to follow the advice of its panelists,

though it usually does.

The drug is currently used by about 20,000 patients, according to Cephalon. Fentora along with Actiq, an older version of the drug, accounted for 29 percent of Cephalon sales last year.

In its review of the new indication, FDA said granting wider approval could encourage "abuse and misuse, and increase the incidence of accidental exposures which ... could potentially have devastating effects."

FDA first approved the drug in 2006 with a strict indication for adults suffering from cancer pain who are already taking opioid drugs, a class of narcotics that includes morphine and codeine as well as Fentora.

But FDA said the drug has frequently been used outside those recommendations, resulting in negative side effects and death. Cephalon has reported five patient deaths due to improper use.

Prescription narcotics can quickly become addictive and

are often abused for their euphoric effects.

Cephalon said in a statement Friday that there is "no evidence that Fentora poses risks of abuse and diversion greater than other opioids."

The company cited a study that showed medications like Fentora are no more appealing to heroin addicts than other types of narcotics.

Cephalon spokeswoman Stacey Beckhardt acknowledged Friday that many doctors already prescribe the drug off-label, or for uses not approved by FDA. She said the

company felt a responsibility to expand the drug's FDA-approved indication to ensure it is used safely.

"Without that broader indication it is difficult for us to share important prescribing information with doctors, pharmacists and patients," Beckhardt said.

Despite the negative FDA review, Oppenheimer & Co. analyst Brett Holley maintained an "outperform" rating on the stock. Even without a larger Fentora franchise, Holley writes "the company has multiple revenue growth drivers beyond Fentora."



# 2008 State of the Commonwealth Address

Photos and Text By  
JACQUELINE  
HERNANDEZ



Gov. Benigno R. Fitial shakes the hand of CNMI Washington Representative Pete A. Tenorio while Associate Justice Alexandro C. Castro, right, and Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja look on.



Members of the 16th Legislature, officials and other dignitaries gather inside the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe during Friday's State of the Commonwealth Address and State of the Washington Office Report.



Gov. Benigno R. Fitial delivers his State of the Commonwealth Address at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe Friday.



Gov. Benigno R. Fitial shakes the hands of CNMI Washington Representative Pete A. Tenorio after the State of the Commonwealth Address and State of the Washington Office Report Friday.



Lt. Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez with wife Margaret and other dignitaries listen to the State of the Commonwealth Address and State of the Washington Office Report.



Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, Senate President Pete P. Reyes, House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios, and CNMI Washington Representative Pete A. Tenorio bow their heads for the benediction during Friday's State of the Commonwealth Address and State of the Washington Office Report.



Gov. Benigno R. Fitial gestures while Senate President Pete P. Reyes and House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios listen to CNMI Washington Representative Pete A. Tenorio's State of the Washington Office Report.



Senate President Pete P. Reyes, House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios, and CNMI Washington Representative Pete A. Tenorio listen to the State of the Commonwealth Address of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe Friday.



Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and CNMI Washington Representative Pete A. Tenorio are greeted by members of the House of Representatives shortly after the State of the Commonwealth Address and State of the Washington Office Report.



CNMI Washington Representative Pete A. Tenorio poses for a photo with House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios, Rep. Christina M. Sablan, and Sen. Paterno S. Hocog.



# Hats, juleps rule at Kentucky Derby

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—Skip Koepnick knows where his tax rebate is going—to a weekend of fun at Churchill Downs.

Koepnick attended his 32nd straight Kentucky Derby on Saturday, making the annual trip from Grand Rapids, Mich., with his girlfriend. He estimated they'll spend about \$500 on gas, lodging, tickets, wagers, food and drinks, all in the name of the Run for the Roses.

He said his economic stimulus check from the government was spent even before he received it. But he said it was worth every penny, calling the Derby a must-see event that's "a piece of Americana."

"We're going to stimulate the Derby," he said.

The payments, which are expected to reach 130 million

households, range up to \$600 for individuals and \$1,200 for married couples, plus \$300 per child for eligible parents.

Others were also putting their stimulus checks to work at the Churchill Downs betting windows.

"Uncle Sam is paying for all my Derby wagers," said John Malloy of St. Louis.

For Tommy Nicholas of Fayetteville, Ark., dipping into his rebate money for Derby Day betting was turning out well through the seventh race.

"I am winning," he said.

Tragedy, however, struck the Derby when the only filly in the 20-horse field, Eight Belles, broke down after finishing second and had to be euthanized.

Race fan Michelle Long of Atlanta had bet on the filly

across the board.

"I feel bad about cashing the ticket in," she said. "It's really sad."

Early on, the Derby had its customary mix of partying, celebrity gawking and cheering on the horses. Some fans were bedecked in their finest suits and dresses; others wore T-shirts and jeans.

Churchill Downs' infield was a mass of humanity despite heavy rain Friday and early Saturday that turned spots into mire. The morning rain gave way to a sun-drenched and breezy afternoon that drew a crowd of 157,770 - second largest in Derby history.

Among the plentiful Derby hats, Koepnick's was especially eye-catching. Koepnick, who calls himself "The Hat Man,"



AP  
ary Barthoe looks at Skip Koepnick in his Derby headwear before the 134th Kentucky Derby Saturday, May 3, 2008, at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Ky.

with race fans.

For Tennessee Titans quarterback Vince Young, his Derby choice was obvious. Young, who wears No. 10, picked Colonel John, No. 10 on the program.

"No. 10, No. 10 all day long," Young said of the colt that later finished sixth.

On a more somber note, flags on either side of the winner's circle flew at half-staff in honor of Fort Campbell, Ky., soldiers who died in Iraq in recent days and for whom funeral arrangements are pending.

Around the Churchill Downs paddock, where colorful hats and casual horse watchers mixed with serious handicappers, Charles Matasich was making his 41st

Derby, wearing the latest incarnation of his annual outfit.

Matasich, of Proctorville, Ohio, who calls himself "Derby Man," was wearing a hat covered in roses, with roses painted on his neck and cheeks and a vest covered in Kentucky Derby pins, some dating more than 20 years.

"I love everything about the Derby," Matasich said. "I love seeing the horses."

The Derby even produced a truce among some sports enthusiasts. Wes Lower, an Auburn graduate, attended the day of racing with his friend Matthew Monk, who graduated from Alabama.

"We don't talk about football," Monk said. "It's for the horses today. If we start talking about football, there may be a fist fight."

is wearing a decorated hard hat featuring two motorized horses that rotated.

Cynthia Myers, of Cincinnati, was sipping a mint julep midmorning on the edge of a third turn in the infield, her jeans pants trickled with mud spots and her shoes filthy. She bought an extra pair of shoes, planning to swap them when conditions improved.

"It's never too early for a drink the Derby," said Myers, who is with her husband, Burt, and group of friends. "The party starts well before the race."

Harry Thomas, also from Cincinnati, was among fans waiting in the infield mudders to show. "Hopefully a mud fight will start out right here," said Thomas, who along with his three sisters had staked out a grassy spot close to the mud.

Thomas said he was more in-

terested in watching the people than the horses.

"It's our own little Mardi Gras," he said.

Churchill Downs rolled out a red carpet for VIP arrivals, among them Chelsea Clinton, daughter of former President Clinton and Democratic presidential hopeful Hillary Clinton; country music singer Travis Tritt; Playboy founder Hugh Hefner; and celebrity chef Bobby Flay. Flay's wife, actress Stephanie March, had to hold onto her hat as the wind kicked up.

"It's a chance to sort of get away from the kids, spend some time by ourselves," said Tritt, who was attending the Derby with his wife, Theresa.

Chelsea Clinton made a swing through the paddock area amid heavy security, shaking hands and having her picture taken

## 'National Train Day' celebration planned by Amtrak this May 10

WASHINGTON (AP)—Amtrak is hoping live entertainment, exhibits and a national TV personality will lure people who don't normally take the train into its stations—and then inspire them to return to ride the rails another day.

Dubbed "National Train Day," the May 10 effort includes a performance by singer-songwriter Sara Bareilles in Washington's Union Station. Al Roker, of NBC's "Today" show, is serving as the official spokesman and will host the Washington events.

Elsewhere, the Harlem Globetrotters will perform in New York City's Penn Station. Amtrak also is sponsoring events in Chicago and Los Angeles, and other groups are organizing smaller-scale festivi-

ties around the country.

The national passenger railroad is using train day to trumpet its recent success. Amtrak has seen its ridership grow to new heights: Some 25.8 million passengers rode the railroad in fiscal 2007, an increase of 1.5 million over the previous year.

Still, future growth likely depends on federal funding, which the Bush administration and others would like to drastically scale back. Amtrak and its allies say it is unrealistic to expect the company to ever be completely self-sufficient.

In Washington, Chicago, Dallas and possibly other cities, National Train Day will include "equipment displays," giving people the opportunity to walk through Amtrak's trains. At Washington's Union Sta-

tion, for example, the company will be showing one of its plush Acela Express trains, which run at high speeds between New York and Boston. Model train displays also are planned.

"Our equipment is definitely the biggest draw, so we needed some way to get people into the stations who maybe don't normally take the train," Amtrak spokeswoman Karina Romero said.

Amtrak is spending \$2.2 million on train day, Romero said. The cost includes general Amtrak advertising that the company has tagged with the train day promotion.

Amtrak chose May 10 for National Train Day because it is the anniversary of the first transcontinental railroad at Promontory Point, Utah, in 1869.

### MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION

*We, the family of the late*

## DANIEL JOSEPH O'CONNOR III

*would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude and thanks to all our friends and relatives both from near and afar who come to be with us and joined us in prayers at the nightly Holy Rosary and especially at the Mass.*

*While we mourned on Daniel's untimely death, we are comforted by your support, words of condolences, kindness and generosity of yourself in sharing your time to be with us during our time of sorrow.*

*We extend our special thanks to PTI Family, Fr. Bong, San Jose Church, Shepherds Choir, Jimmy Whang, Joe Asanuma, Simon, Christine, Peters Kapileo, Shiela & Larry Oney, Ed & Nenita Peterson, Steve & Olive Newman, Ed & Marietta Klingberg, Ivan & Juanita Propst, Fire Medics, Department of Public Safety, CHC Doctors and Nurses, POI Staff, Reagan Family, Mafnas Family, Sapphire Funeral Homes, Oleai Beach Bar & Grill Staff, VFW Canteen & members, Joe's Bar & Grill, PIC Staff, Island Farmer's Market and families in the U.S. mainland.*

*To all who have helped me in one way please be assured that you will be remembered in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Thank you for your thoughts and prayers.*

**Emma O'Connor & Family**





# The Boss, Sinatra among N.J. Hall of Fame's first inductees

TRENTON, N.J. (AP)—Pop quiz: What comes to mind when you think about Yogi Berra, Thomas Edison, Albert Einstein and Toni Morrison? Brilliant minds, inspiring souls, trailblazers—all are likely responses.

And ... New Jersey?

Yep. They all have strong ties to the oft-maligned Garden State, and they're among the first 15 people to be inducted Sunday into New Jersey's new Hall of Fame.

"I think anything you get inducted to you feel good about," said 82-year-old Berra, the famous New York Yankee catcher who lives in Montclair in northern New Jersey. "Heck to get inducted with all them guys, that's pretty good."

Berra, who's lived in New Jersey for 52 years, is in good company.

In addition to Edison, Einstein and Morrison, the inaugural class includes Frank Sinatra, Bruce Springsteen, Meryl Streep, astronaut Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf and Vince Lombardi.

"There's no doubt this will be a historic event for the state," said Don Jay Smith, the hall's



This is a Sept. 28, 2007 file photo of Bruce Springsteen on the NBC "Today" television program in New York's Rockefeller Center.

executive director. "New Jersey is often the butt of jokes, nationally, and yet when people see who has claimed New Jersey as their home, they will be very

impressed."

Edison's great-granddaughter, Elizabeth Sloane Eggemann, of White House Station in north-west New Jersey, said the fa-

mous inventor would be thrilled by the honor, and she hopes children are inspired by all of the hall's inductees.

"It's really great to recognize all the accomplishments," she said.

The Hall of Fame exists only as a virtual entity now, but officials are raising money to build a permanent museum. The first class was chosen through an on-line vote after 25 finalists were announced in 2006.

All inductees must have lived in the state for at least five years, though organizers made an exception to that rule for Underground Railroad pioneer Harriet Tubman.

Smith said he expects most of the living inductees to attend Sunday's induction ceremony at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark.

Two inductees, Streep and former U.S. Sen. Bill Bradley, have asked that the presentation of their awards be held until they can receive them in person.

"Meryl Streep was honored to be among the first class to be inducted to the New Jersey Hall of Fame," her representative, Michelle Benson, said in a statement. "Because of the significance of the Hall of Fame, she has asked that the presentation of her award be postponed until she can accept in person."

## Winehouse won't record track for new 007 film

LONDON (AP)—Amy Winehouse has abandoned recording the theme to the latest James Bond film because the singer is not ready to work, her producer said Friday.

Mark Ronson, who produced much of Winehouse's Grammy-winning "Back to Black," said the soul diva is "not ready to record any music."

Ronson said the two started work on the track for the upcoming Bond movie "Quantum of Solace" but it would take "some miracle of science" to finish it, he said in an interview with Sky News.

Winehouse's troubles with drugs, law enforcement and her rocky romance with her jailed husband Blake Fielder-Civil have kept the singer in the spotlight.

Police gave her a formal warning last week after she scuffled with two men during a raucous night out.



In this Feb. 20, 2008, file photo, Amy Winehouse performs at the Brit Awards 2008 in London.

## Children of country music writer drop lawsuit

HAMILTON, Ohio (AP)—The children of a hit country music songwriter have dropped a wrongful death lawsuit accusing their evangelist aunt of promising to use her healing powers to cure the cancer that killed their father and then stealing an inheritance that could be worth millions.

The heirs of Darrell "Wayne" Perry, whose songs include Tim McGraw's "Not a Moment Too Soon," had alleged that their aunt said she had been healed of breast cancer through prayer and faith, and that she would heal their father



In this 2002 photo released by Bryan Wayne Perry, country music songwriter Darrell "Wayne" Perry is shown.

the same way.

Darlene Bishop, who preaches nationwide, denied that she ever tried to stop her brother from receiving medical treatment.

Perry died of throat cancer in 2005 at age 55.

Bishop is co-pastor of Solid Rock Church, known for its 60-foot-tall statue of Jesus along Interstate 75 just north of Cincinnati. The suit against her was dropped Friday.

Perry's son, Justin Jones, of Middletown, said his aunt has agreed to put him in charge of administering the lucrative family trust.

## Couple gets silent treatment for opting out of family plot

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



*Dear Abby*

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband and I have been informed that a family headstone has been purchased, and our share is \$2,000 -- each. This was never discussed among the family members. The cemetery is located out of state. My husband is in the military, and we had planned to use the military cemetery where we live for a small fee. We think the family was rude and presumptuous planning for our deaths.

Because we declined, the family no longer speaks to us, which breaks our hearts. I am sure it is a tactic to wear us down.

We have received an e-mail telling us we are no longer welcome to attend the family reunion this summer unless we fork over the \$4,000 and agree to have our names placed on the headstone. Your opinion, please, and any advice would be greatly appreciated.

NOT DEAD AND BURIED YET

**DEAR NOT D AND B:** If you were truly considered "part of the family," you would have been part of the discussion and planning for that headstone. The silent treatment your family is giving you is emotional blackmail. Do not give in. Sad as it may be, recognize that you were already "excommunicated" when you were excluded from the planning and the purchase of the plot, not because you refused their demand.

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I have started dating a man, "Karl," who is wonderful. We have similar values and enjoy doing the same things. After talking over lunches and dinners, I decided to do some Internet digging, and have learned that Karl is nine years younger than I am.

My friend and I are both in our 60s—Karl is at the beginning, I'm at the end. I dwell on the age difference all the time and have started refusing his dinner invitations. Am I making too much out of this? Or should I go with the flow and see what happens?

My mom always told me she liked the saying, "I would rather be an old man's sweetheart than a young man's old lady." I have always agreed with her.

YOUNG AT HEART

**DEAR YOUNG AT HEART:** For heaven's sake, go with the flow. As my mother used to say, "The most important ingredient in a lasting marriage is a husband who lasts." Demographically, men die younger than women do. You and Karl are, to put it mildly, well into adulthood. You share similar values and common interests. To reject him because he is nine years younger is crazy. Discuss it with him. You might be pleased to learn that he would enjoy being your "boy-toy."

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm a college senior (female) who spends a lot of time with my professors. This includes extracurricular functions and receptions.

I have always addressed them as "professor." But lately, they have been signing e-mails (personal ones) with their first names. Does this mean they want me to call them by their first names? Or should I just continue addressing them as "professor"?

COLLEGE SENIOR IN N.C.

**DEAR COLLEGE SENIOR:** Until you graduate, continue to address them using their titles. After that, ask them what they would like you to call them. But for now, using the titles they have earned shows respect.

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)*

## NY lawsuit seeks damages for use of Rockwell illustration

NEW YORK (AP)—The owner of Norman Rockwell's "Bottom of the 6th"—showing three umpires looking skyward as first raindrops fall—is steaming over the use of the classic illustration in the television series "The Bronx is Burning."

Curtis Publishing Co. Inc. has filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Manhattan seeking to stop ESPN Inc. from rebroadcasting the series about the 1977 New York Yankees until it withdraws use of the painting.

Curtis sent an e-mail to ESPN lawyers notifying them that ESPN did not have a license to use the painting and was committing willful copyright infringement, the lawsuit said.

The lawsuit claims Curtis will suffer damage to its business, including loss of its reputation for exclusive ownership of its copyrighted catalog of illustrations.

According to the court papers, Curtis was notified in mid July that "Bottom of the 6th" was shown full screen in the second episode of the series, titled "Team in Turmoil." Since then, the series has been sold in DVD and VHS format, it said.

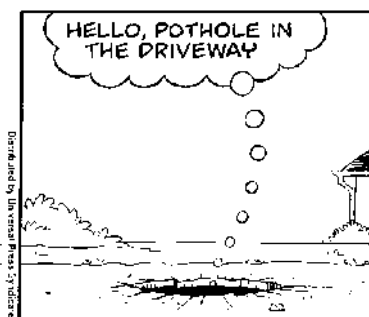
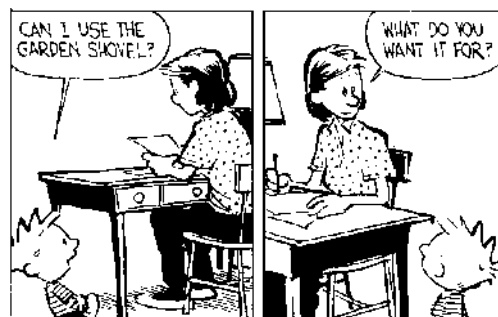
Lawyers for ESPN, which first aired the eight-part series last summer, did not immediately return telephone calls for comment. Colleen Lynch, an ESPN spokeswoman, said she could not immediately comment on the lawsuit, which was filed on April 22.



# Calvin and Hobbes

# Garfield®

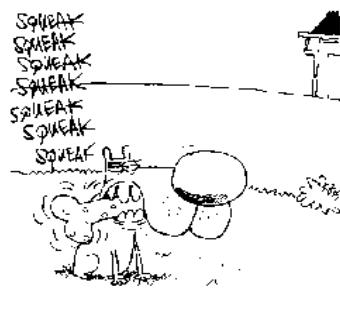
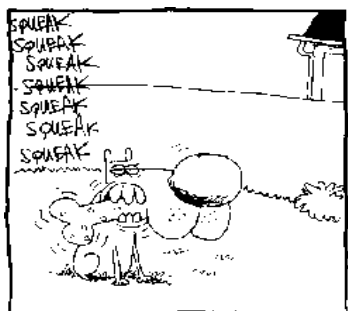
**By Jim Davis**



# Adam@home

## The Duplex

**By Glenn McCoy**



*By Eugene Sheffer*

**ACROSS**

1 Vicinity  
5 Hot tub  
8 Stubborn one  
12 Predicate component  
13 Scoundre  
14 October birthstone  
15 "American"  
16 World-wide police organization  
18 Two tablets, maybe  
20 Emphasize  
21 Galvanizing material  
23 Melody  
24 Walkie talkie's kin  
28 Surface matter  
31 Office VIP  
32 Raise an objection  
34 "My home, sweet home"

**35 KFC additive**  
**37 Track star, perhaps**  
**39 Numerical prefix**  
**41 Concert halls**  
**42 10-Down's people, e.g.**  
**45 Improve nutritionally**  
**49 Break into**  
**51 Liberte**  
**52 Potter's oven**  
**53 Exist**  
**54 Actor Wilson**

**55 Remain**  
**56 Tavern**  
**57 Bankrolls**

**DOWN**

1 Eager, and then some  
2 Start over  
3 Love god  
4 Burning  
5 Biology, botany, etc.  
6 Pay on words  
7 Macrame, decoupage, etc.  
8 Spokes-cat for 9 Lives  
9 Boxer's lactic

10 Vientiane's land  
11 Right angles  
17 Greek vowel  
19 Surround  
22 Mortar or plaster, for short  
24 German pronoun  
25 Born  
26 Quesadilla holder  
27 Certain criminal  
29 Work with  
30 Scratch  
33 Nothing, in Nantes  
36 Intelligent  
38 Not wide  
40 Hostel  
42 Requests  
43 Skewer  
44 Impale  
46 "The Music Man" setting  
47 Prompted  
48 Coop group  
50 Historic time

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

C	O	C	O	C	S	C	A	R	M	E	N
S	F	C	R	E	F	T	A	R	G	A	N
I	N	H	E	R	E	H	E	A	L	T	I
S	T	O	A	E	V	E	N	O	S		
		M	A	R	E		A	R	E		
P	I	E		G	I	N	A		E	M	I
S	O	N	S	A	N	D	L	O	V	E	R
I	N	I	O		G	O	L	D		R	E
		I	I	K		R	E	A	M		
T	A	R	N	A	S	L	O	S	L	O	
G	P	E	N	E	D		J	P	R	O	A
R	E			E	D		I	O	N	I	Z
I	D	V	L	L	S		A	I	S	L	E

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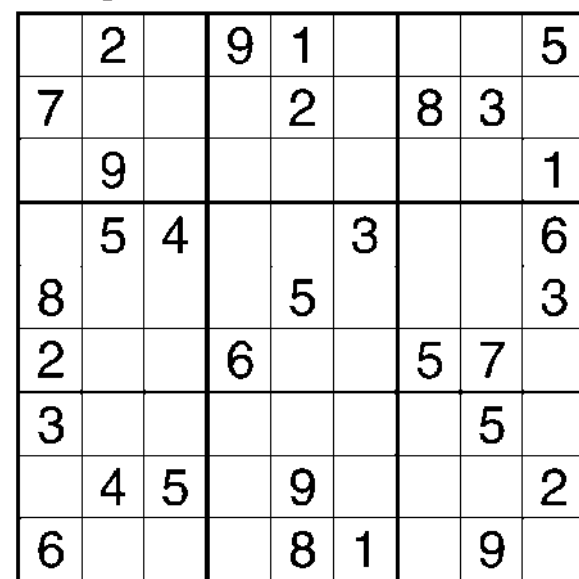
## STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ or y.) A King Features service. NYC.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): You can get up close and personal with someone you love. This is a great day to take part in activities that will benefit a cause or enable you to help someone you respect. An opportunity to partner with someone will be to your advantage. ☼☼☼☼

# SUDOKU

*By Dave Green*



Difficulty Level ★

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**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Do whatever it takes to make everyone you live with content and happy with the comforts of home and the dynamics of the relationships

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

### Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

3	4	6	5	8	2	9	7	1
1	5	8	7	3	9	2	4	6
9	7	2	4	1	6	8	3	5
7	6	5	2	4	3	1	9	8
4	8	3	6	9	1	5	2	7
2	1	9	8	7	5	4	6	3
6	2	7	9	5	8	3	1	4
5	3	4	1	2	7	6	8	9
8	9	1	3	6	4	7	5	2

1)  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  溶液呈蓝色，其原因是  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  离子在水溶液中以  $[\text{Cu}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{2+}$  形式存在，其水合离子呈蓝色。

# EUGENIA LAST

## THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**Birthday Baby:** You are traditionalist. You have high morals and standards and are always looking for answers and solutions. You are determined, practical, fair and efficient.

Eugenia's Web sites: **astroadvice.com** for fun,  
**eugenialast.com** for confidential consultations

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID  
QUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them, and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The 13 power letters spell the Wonderword.

**FEMA** Solution: 9 letters

C	O	L	L	A	P	S	E	S	R	I	A	P	E	R
E	C	S	P	E	S	S	E	N	I	S	U	B	E	E
R	O	Y	T	R	N	E	S	P	U	B	L	I	C	N
O	S	A	R	O	E	M	E	R	G	E	N	C	Y	E
I	I	D	P	F	F	P	N	M	O	F	Q	I	F	W
S	S	S	N	D	V	T	A	U	O	T	U	A	L	D
E	E	I	I	A	R	O	P	R	R	B	C	C	O	O
R	S	C	P	O	L	I	C	I	E	S	I	O	O	N
D	A	A	P	(P)	(L)	(F)	(H)	F	F	D	I	I	D	A
L	E	P	F	O	M	E	M	C	R	M	N	N	E	T
O	U	E	A	E	V	E	U	O	S	A	V	E	G	S
S	C	N	N	I	T	R	E	S	H	A	R	E	S	I
S	S	T	V	S	I	Y	R	O	T	S	I	H	N	S
E	E	E	Y	T	T	E	T	A	L	U	M	I	T	S
S	R	S	Y	S	F	I	I	I	R	O	H	I	U	S

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Assistance, Authorities, Business, Collapses, Costs, Days, Doctors, Emergency, Flood, Help, History, Homeland, Loans, Local, Losses, Medical, Mobile, Need, Nursing, Policies, Preparedness, Public, Recovery, Reinforcement, Renew, Repair, Rescue, Response, Restore, Revive, Safety, Save, Security, Share, State, Stimulate, Support, System

**Last Saturday's Answer: Load**



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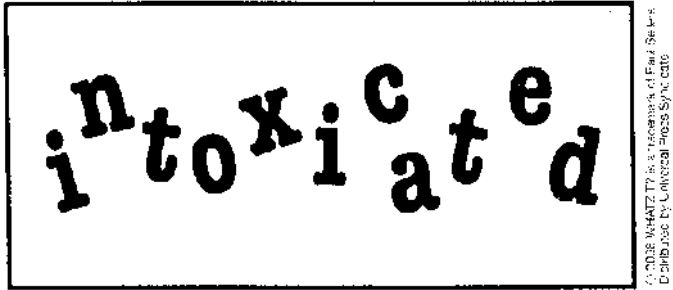
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1st position	\$13.00
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Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

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Monday Through Friday Issues: All ads placed before 12 noon will come out the next publication date.

Saturday And Sunday Issues:  
- Saipan Tribune: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on either Sunday or Monday issues.

**CANCELLATION**

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**Job Vacancy Announcements**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

**REFUNDS**

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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# Big Brown wins Kentucky Derby

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—Big Brown was pulling away from the field, accelerating with every powerful stride toward the finish line in the Kentucky Derby. The crowd of 157,770 was on its feet and cheering as the big, unbeaten, muscular bay crossed the line first, 4 3/4 lengths ahead of the filly Eight Belles.

Trainer Rick Dutrow Jr. was still celebrating, along with thousands of happy bettors, as Big Brown and the 19 other horses in Saturday's race galloped out around the first turn at Churchill Downs.

It took a few minutes to sink in, but anyone watching those horses soon realized that one of them had fallen to the track.

"It's the filly," someone whispered. She went down about a quarter mile past the finish line.

In just a few minutes, the joy of the Derby and the promise of a new Triple Crown season were upended when Eight Belles was euthanized by injection on the track.

She had broken both front ankles and could not be saved.

"This horse showed you his heart," winning jockey Kent Desormeaux said, "and Eight Belles showed you her life for our enjoyment today. I'm deeply sympathetic to that team for their loss."

Big Brown did everything his owner said he would do. An explosive finishing kick put away his rivals for his fourth consecutive victory.

Eight Belles, meantime, was attempting to become the fourth filly to win the Derby. Her owners chose to keep her out of Friday's Kentucky Oaks so she could run with the boys in the Derby. And run she did.

Big Brown's start from the outside post did little to hamper his charge when the field turned



Kent Desormeaux rides Big Brown to victory during the 134th Kentucky Derby Saturday, May 3, 2008, at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Ky. <sup>AP</sup>

for home. Under the urging of Desormeaux, the 2-1 favorite cruised to an easy victory to become the seventh undefeated Derby winner. The last one was Barbaro in 2006.

That wasn't the only reason thoughts of Barbaro were hard to ignore on this Derby Day.

The breakdown brought back memories of the 2006 Preakness, where Barbaro shattered his right rear leg just after the start. The colt was euthanized months later, after developing laminitis from the catastrophic injuries.

In two weeks, Big Brown will race in the Preakness

as the only 3-year-old with a chance to become the first Triple Crown champion since Affirmed in 1978.

"We're ready to roll," Dutrow said.

All week, Dutrow told the world he had the best horse in the field - and the big bay colt justified every accolade tossed his way.

"I can't describe the feeling that all of us have right now," he said.

The colt became the first Derby winner since Regret in 1915 to have raced only three times previously. He is only the third in 60 years to win after racing in

just two Derby preps—Sunny's Halo in 1983 and Street Sense last year were the others.

In addition, Big Brown became the second winner to start from the No. 20 post. The gelding Clyde Van Dusen did it in 1929.

Big Brown covered the 1 1/4 miles in 2:01.82 in front of the second-largest crowd in Derby history. He paid \$6.80, \$5 and \$4.80.

Eight Belles paid \$10.60 and \$6.40, and Denis of Cork, at odds of 27-1, returned \$11.60.

Dr. Larry Bramlage, the Derby's on-call veterinarian, said the filly's injuries were too

severe to even attempt to move her off the track. "She didn't have a front leg to stand on to be splinted and hauled off in the ambulance, so she was euthanized," Bramlage said.

Trainer Larry Jones paid tribute to his fallen filly saying, "She ran the race of her life."

And he defended having her run against 19 colts in the Derby.

"It wasn't that. It wasn't the distance. It wasn't a big bumping match for her. She never got touched," he said. "She passed all those questions ... with flying colors. The race was over, all we had to do was pull up, come

back and be happy. It just didn't happen."

Tale of Ekati was fourth, followed by Recapturetheglory, Colonel John, Anak Nakal, Pyro, Cowboy Cal, Z Fortune, Smooth Air, Visionaire, Court Vision, Z Humor, Cool Coal Man, Bob Black Jack, Gayego, Big Truck, Adriano and Monba.

The colt earned \$1,451,800 for the win and boosted his earnings to \$2,114,500 for owners IEAH Stables and Paul Pompa Jr. Pompa, who named Big Brown in honor of United Parcel Service, a client of his trucking business, sold a 75 percent interest in the colt to IEAH for about \$3 million after his first race.

Desormeaux won the Derby for the third time, having won aboard Real Quiet in 1998 and Fusaichi Pegasus in 2000. Only three other riders have won more—Eddie Arcaro, Bill Hartack and Bill Shoemaker.

"It was smooth sailing all the way," Desormeaux said. "The horse was very comfortable."

Big Brown was the third favorite to win in the past five years. Smarty Jones won in 2004 and Street Sense won last year.

All eyes were on Big Brown at the start. Dutrow called his colt the fastest of all and he proved it when Desormeaux gunned him close the lead on the mad dash to the first turn. Desormeaux did a masterful job of keeping Big Brown free and clear of any traffic issues.

As the field headed into the backstretch, Big Brown was in sixth place and waiting for Desormeaux's signal to make his move. It came around the far turn, and Big Brown took the lead at the top of the stretch and was never challenged to the wire.

"I don't even know what we just did," Dutrow said. "I can't express my feelings, only that it was one of the most incredible feelings I ever had, and I can't wait to feel it again."

## Kim roars to 4-shot lead at Wachovia Championship

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—Quail Hollow Club's tree-lined, old-style setup has produced an impressive list of winners, ranging from Vijay Singh to Jim Furyk to last year's champion, Tiger Woods. With Woods unable to defend his Wachovia Championship title following knee surgery, Anthony Kim moved a step away from joining that elite group - a month shy of his 23rd birthday.

The steady, focused, and less flamboyant Kim shot a 6-under 66 on Saturday to take a four-shot lead over Jason Bohn and Heath Slocum after the third round.

While Kim still sports the signature shiny belt buckle with his initials, the big hitter's recent focus on his game left him at 13 under and as close as ever to his first PGA Tour win.

But the best way to describe how Kim has changed was not the long drives and six birdies Saturday, it was a short punch

out on the third hole, when he decided not to try a low-percentage shot to reach the green.

"Six months ago I would tried to go for it, and there was double or triple bogey written all over that," Kim said. "I chipped out, saved par, and that kept my round going. Little things like that have added to some good play."

Kim passed Bohn, the second-round leader and his playing partner, by sinking a 9-foot birdie putt on the ninth hole. Kim added another birdie at No. 14, then navigated through the course's tough closing stretch with his best golf of the round.

After getting up and down for par on the 17th, Kim ripped a 324-yard drive on No. 18 and hit his second shot to 7 feet. He made the birdie putt and calmly walked off the course as the only golfer without a bogey on his scorecard and

well ahead of one of the strongest non-major fields on the tour.

"I feel like I'm ready," Kim said of trying to become the eighth golfer in his 20s to win this year, "but you never know."

Bohn recovered from a poor day of putting with a chip-in for par on the 18th for a 72 and a second-place tie with Slocum.

But Bohn was in awe of what he saw from Kim.

"It was awe-inspiring to see him come to chip in on the last hole, but I didn't play as well as I wanted to today," Bohn said. "I played with somebody who played extraordinarily good, almost Tiger-esque. He hit a lot of great shots. So it was fun. I got to watch good golf anyhow."

Slocum charged into contention by holing out for eagle on the 15th hole. Slocum shot 68 and will be paired with Kim on Sunday.

"I thought it was going to be maybe three feet short and it really just kept rolling out and rolling out," Slocum said of his eagle. "It was lined up and the crowd starting getting a little bit louder and a little bit louder and it disappeared."

Bohn will play with Stewart Cink, who was tied with Dudley Hart (70) at 8 under.

Cink, whose 65 matched Pat Perez (6 under) for the best round of the tournament, is part of a field of big names with plenty of work to do Sunday. Furyk's 71 left him at 7 under with Geoff Ogilvy (69). Singh (70) and Fred Couples (69) were at 6 under. Phil Mickelson recovered from his two late double bogeys Friday to shoot 69. He was at 5-under with Adam Scott (66).

But they won't have a chance if Kim continues his success at the 7,442-yard layout. Kim and Woods are the only play-

ers here with a scoring average of less than 70.

"If he plays like he did today, we're not going to be able to catch him," Bohn said. "But the finish on this golf course is phenomenal, because anything can happen."

After three missed cuts and no finish better than 30th in six tournaments, Kim decided he was "talking a little bit more than I was practicing." His renewed focus led to his tie for second at the Verizon Heritage last month.

Kim said he tried to limit his risk-taking and not get down after bad shots.

"If I didn't hit a good shot, I felt like my life was over," Kim said. "It's hard to play golf that way. It's hard to do anything that way. I'm just having a lot of fun out here. I love being on the PGA Tour and living my dream. It's pretty special."

Bohn, who entered the day with a two-shot lead over Kim,

missed birdie putts on 13 and 14, then bogeyed the par-5 15th, a day after he raved about the success with his new putter.

Bohn's short-game woes allowed Kim to roar past him.

Kim was born in Los Angeles and was the NCAA freshman of the year at Oklahoma in 2004. He turned pro after his junior year and burst onto the PGA Tour by tying for second in the 2006 Texas Open.

As the youngest rookie on the PGA Tour in 2007, Kim had four top-10 finishes—including a seventh-place finish at Quail Hollow. But he never won and then struggled to make cuts earlier this year.

"It was a great learning experience," Kim said. "If I won I think there's a chance I wouldn't have practiced as hard as I am now. I feel like I'm very focused out there. Hopefully I can keep it up."





# West leads Hornets in Game 1 win over Spurs



**NEW ORLEANS** (AP)—David West scored a career play-off-high 30 points to lead the New Orleans Hornets to a 101-82 victory over the San Antonio Spurs in Game 1 of their second-round playoff series Saturday night.

Chris Paul added 17 points, 13 assists and four steals for New Orleans, which trailed by as much as 11 in the first half but stormed into the lead for good in the third quarter.

Tim Duncan had a rare terrible night, going 1-of-9 from the field for a career playoff-low five points and only three rebounds.

The Hornets swarmed Duncan with double teams throughout the game, forcing San Antonio to look for points from outside.

The Spurs hit 12 3-pointers in the game, but also missed 19.

The Hornets dominated the inside, outrebounding San Antonio 50-34 and outscoring the Spurs 46-26 in the paint. The Hornets also shot 50 percent, while the Spurs finished at 40.8 percent.

Tyson Chandler had 10 points, 15 rebounds and three blocked shots for New Orleans. Peja Stojakovic added 22 points for the Hornets on 9-of-15 shooting, while reserve Bonzi Wells added 10 points, all but two in the fourth quarter.

Tony Parker led the Spurs with 23 points and Manu Gi-

nobili had 19. Bruce Bowen added 17 points and Michael Finley 13, but San Antonio needed more help inside from Duncan and Kurt Thomas, who had only two points and two rebounds.

After trailing most of the first half, the Hornets surged into the lead for good with a 13-0 run in the third quarter that opened with Chandler's driving layup and ended with Stojakovic's second 3-pointer of the game.

That gave the Hornets a 61-54 lead, which they built to 74-66 heading into the fourth quarter.

Jacque Vaughn's driving layup got the Spurs as close as 76-71 early in the period, but the Hornets, despite being in the playoffs for the first time in four years, were not rattled and pushed the lead back up to double digits before turning it into a blowout during the last 5 minutes, with Paul scoring seemingly at will.

The Hornets scored the first eight points of the game, with Stojakovic and Mo Peterson each hitting 3s, and San Antonio didn't have a point until Parker's free throws with 7:36 left in the



New Orleans Hornets forward David West (30) goes to the basket as San Antonio Spurs Kurt Thomas defends in the second half of Game 1 in the second round of the NBA basketball playoffs series Saturday, May 3, 2008, in New Orleans.

first quarter.

It didn't take long for the San Antonio to settle down,

however, and they didn't need much help from Parker or Duncan. Ginobili hit his first

four shots, including three 3s, and Bowen hit three 3s of his own as the Spurs stormed back to take a 27-23 lead at the end of the first quarter.

New Orleans fought back to take a 35-34 lead on Chandler's alley-oop dunk of Paul's lob, but Bowen, who minutes earlier had been face down on the floor with his hands over his face after apparently getting poked in the eye on foul by Wells, hit two more 3s, one while being fouled.

Finley had another 3 during a 10-0 run that put San Antonio up 44-35. San Antonio finished the first half 9-for-17 on 3s, and with a 49-45 lead.

## Pistons 91, Magic 72

At Auburn Hills, Hedo Turkoglu's uncontested dunk early in the second half gave the Orlando Magic their first lead. Less than a minute later, the Detroit Pistons took over.

Chauncey Billups had 19 points, seven assists and played a key role in the decisive run of the game, leading Detroit to a 91-72 win over Orlando on Saturday night in Game 1 of the second-round series.

Dwight Howard had a relatively quiet night with 12 points, eight rebounds and three blocks after being the first player since Wilt Chamberlain to score 20 points and grab 20 rebounds in three playoff games since Wilt Chamberlain did it in 1972.

Howard played for much of the second half with blue tape

wrapped around his left hand, seemingly to protect his thumb he injured after trying to grab a rebound.

After Turkoglu's dunk and the ensuing timeout Pistons coach Flip Saunders called, the Magic took their last lead with 10:08 left in the third quarter.

Then, Detroit went on its first of two big runs in the second half to take a 64-49 lead.

Orlando rallied to trail by just seven points entering the fourth despite making only 1-of-10 3-pointers and 7-of-16 free throws.

Jason Maxiell squashed any comeback hopes the Magic had.

Detroit's power forward, starting again for Antonio McDyess, scored 10 of his 12 points in the fourth quarter with surprising touch on jumpers and free throws. He helped the second-seeded team build an 18-point lead it didn't have trouble maintaining with the starters resting on the bench.

The Pistons will host Game 2 Monday night.

Detroit's backcourt gave Orlando a lot of problems.

Billups blew past the Magic whenever he wanted and Richard Hamilton got open around screens to score 17 points.

Tayshaun Prince also had 12 points for the Pistons.

Turkoglu and Rashard Lewis both scored 18 for the Magic, who didn't get much offensively out of anybody other than those two and Howard.

# Webb brings up seventh win as Diamondbacks down Mets



**PHOENIX** (AP)—

Brandon Webb became the majors' first seven-game winner this season as the Arizona Diamondbacks beat the New York Mets 10-4 in the National League on Saturday.

Augie Ojeda drove in a career-high six runs for Arizona.

Webb matched Randy Johnson in 2000 for the fastest start by a Diamondbacks pitcher. He went six innings, allowing a season-high four runs.

Webb was sailing along with a 5-1 lead when a single, a walk and then a home run cut Arizona's lead to 5-4. The Diamondbacks responded with five runs in the eighth.

## Cubs 9, Cardinals 3

In St. Louis, Ted Lilly worked seven solid innings, recorded his 1,000th strikeout and added his second career extra-base hit, leading Chicago over St. Louis.

Lilly hit a season best for innings, allowing only six hits. He is 2-1 with a 2.84 ERA in his last three starts, recovering from a poor start to the season.

## Dodgers 12, Rockies 7

In Denver, Los Angeles extended its winning streak to eight games

by downing Colorado.

James Loney homered and drove in six runs for the Dodgers.

The Rockies have lost three straight and 11th of their past 13. Colorado is eight games under .500 for the first time in 12 months.

## Astros 6, Brewers 2

In Houston, pitcher Brandon Backe and Michael Bourn hit back-to-back home runs in a five-run fifth inning as Houston beat Milwaukee.

It was the second night in a row the Astros have hit consecutive home runs, after they hit three straight in the series opener.

Backe pitched 5 2-3 solid innings and allowed five hits. He and Bourn came into the game with just five career home runs combined.

## Braves 9, Reds 1

In Atlanta, the home side broke open a close game with a six-run seventh inning to sink Cincinnati.

Jo-Jo Reyes gave up just one run in 5 1-3 innings after being called up from the minors to replace injured veteran John Smoltz.

## Giants 3, Phillies 2, 10 innings

In Philadelphia, Bengie Molina

singled in the go-ahead run in the 10th inning to lift San Francisco over Philadelphia.

The Giants are third in the NL West, but already 7-1/2 games behind dominant Arizona.

## Nationals 9, Pirates 8

In Washington, Cristian Guzman tied a career high with six RBIs, including a tiebreaking three-run double in the sixth inning, as Washington held off Pittsburgh.

Guzman went 4-for-5 and scored two runs for the Nationals, who have won five of six. He got Washington off to a fast start with a two-run homer in the first inning.

## Padres 7, Marlins 2

In Miami, star pitcher Jake Peavy won for the first time in more than three weeks as San Diego beat Florida.

Tadahito Iguchi hit the go-ahead two-run double for the Padres.

The 2007 NL Cy Young award winner Peavy allowed only two runs in 5 2-3 innings.

## Yankees 6, Mariners 1

In New York, Johnny Damon homered and doubled twice as the New York Yankees beat the Seattle Mariners.

Damon's hitting helped pitch-

er Mike Mussina win his third straight start.

One day after co-chairman Hank Steinbrenner said he was "disappointed with the way the season has gone," the Yankees had 13 hits and beat Seattle for the second consecutive day following a three-game sweep by the Detroit Tigers.

Damon scored three times and Mussina recorded his 254th win, passing Carl Hubbell on the career wins list while tying Jack Morris and Hall of Famer Red Faber for 39th place. Mussina struck out five in six innings.

The Mariners have lost four in a row.

## Twins 4, Tigers 1

In Minneapolis, Craig Monroe hit a two-run homer to trigger Minnesota's win over Detroit.

Brian Bass got his first major league win in relief of injured starter Scott Baker for the Twins. Bass allowed three hits in four scoreless innings.

Tigers starter Justin Verlander retired the first 10 batters he faced but ran into trouble in the fourth, allowing a single, a double, loading the bases with an intentional walk and then conceding the opening run on a groundout.

## Royals 4, Indians 2

In Cleveland, Billy Butler's tie-breaking single keyed Kansas City's four-run seventh inning that defeated Cleveland.

## Red Sox 12, Rays 4.

In Boston, Manny Ramirez singled in two runs in the first inning to end his longest RBI drought with Boston, which crunched Tampa Bay.

Boston's Josh Beckett pitched eight innings, allowing seven hits.

## Angels 3, Orioles 1

In Anaheim, California, Jon Garland pitched three-hit ball for eight innings as Los Angeles beat Baltimore.

Gary Matthews Jr. drove in two runs for the Angels, who left slumping slugger Vladimir Guerrero on the bench.

Only four Orioles reached base against Garland, who allowed one run and retired 18 of his last 19 batters.

Matthews started in right field for the Angels in place of Guerrero, who was given the day off. He is in an 0-for-15 drought, the first time in his career he's gone hitless in five consecutive games.

## Blue Jays 5, White Sox 2

In Toronto, Vernon Wells drove

in three runs as Toronto beat Chicago.

Marco Scutaro homered for the Blue Jays, who have won three straight after losing eight of nine.

A solo home run in the seventh snapped a streak of 24 2-3 consecutive scoreless innings by Blue Jays pitchers.

The White Sox have lost a season-high four straight.

## Rangers 6, Athletics 3

In Oakland, California, A.J. Murray made the most of his call-up from the minors, pitching Texas to a win over Oakland.

Murray allowed only two earned runs in 5 1-3 innings a day after being called up from the minors.

The Rangers have won four straight since questions were raised about the job stability of manager Ron Washington.

The Rangers, who came into the game with a major league-worst 5.29 ERA, got their third straight strong pitching performance from an unlikely source. Texas has allowed just four earned runs the past three games.

Staked to a 3-0 lead before stepping on the mound, Murray pitched confidently and challenged the A's hitters. He held Oakland scoreless until the fifth.







# 2008 Guam Short Course Championships

Contributed Photos



Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan's Saipan Rezne Wong, back, and six of the eight-team junior swimmers that competed in last April 26's 2008 Guam Short Course Championships in the Hagatna Pool pose at Guam's Won Pot International Airport. Wong took part in the 2008 GSF All Island Invitational Swim Meet.



Kaisei Toda, Takumi Sugie, Ritsuki Umeda, Daisuke Fitial, Kosei Toda, Kaito Yanai, Ryosei Toda, and Fumika Umeda pose for the camera after arriving at the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport.



Kaisei Toda standing at the back of starting block during the 2008 Guam Short Course Championships in the Hagatna Pool.



Coach Hiro Kimura encourages Daisuke Fitial before his race during the 2008 Guam Short Course Championships in the Hagatna Pool.



Daisuke Fitial and Kaito Yanai pose with Kai Aricayos, center. The three finished 1-2-3 in their divisions during the 2008 Guam Short Course Championships in the Hagatna Pool.



Relay member Ryosei Toda and Kaito Yanai smile for the camera during a break in the 2008 Guam Short Course Championships in the Hagatna Pool.



Tsunami Saipan's junior swimmers get something to eat at Guam's Won Pot International Airport with head coach Hiro Kimura.



Tsunami Saipan swimmers stretch before their practice at Leo Palace.



Tsunami Saipan swimmers practice with their counterparts from Tsunami Guam at Leo Palace.



Tsunami Saipan swimmers practice with their counterparts from Tsunami Guam at Onward Resort.





## Memorial Day softball fundraiser set

A softball fundraising tournament will be held during the Memorial Day weekend to help the Saipan teams that will be competing in a Guam baseball tournament mid this year.

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

## Big Brown wins Kentucky Derby

Big Brown was pulling away from the field, accelerating with every powerful stride toward the finish line in the Kentucky Derby. The crowd of 157,770 was on its feet and cheering as the big, unbeaten, muscular bay crossed the line first.



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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Hustlers edge Aztecs in Big League

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER

John Mafnas pitched in no relief and drove in the winning run to lift the Hustlers to a 6-5 win over the UMDA Aztecs in yesterday's Big League division game in the Saipan Little League at the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field.

Mafnas pitched a complete game and was tagged with four earned runs on nine hits fanning four and giving up no walks.

He then ripped an RBI single to allow Tyrone Cabrera to score the game-winning run as the Hustlers wrested the lead with their 8-3 record entering the final stages of the league.

The Hustlers were trailing 5-4 in the bottom of the seventh.

Josh Arriola had a lead off single then A.J. Dela Cruz grounded out on a 5-3 play for the first out as the Aztecs need to retire the next two batters to preserve the win.

Cabrera connected on an RBI triple to allow Arriola to score the tying run while Mafnas drove

him in with a single to end the game.

## Hustlers 12, Dolphins 2

Sunday's win was the Hustlers' second straight in the first week of May as they also scored a 12-2 triumph over the PTI Dolphins on May 1.

Giovanni Ayuyu pitched six innings in the game shortened by the 10-run mercy rule. He gave up one earned run on three hits retiring 11 batters and walking two more.



Ayuyu held the Dolphins to a 3-for-21 batting or a .142 average. He also went 2-for-4 with one run scored and two RBIs.

Joel Satur went 3-for-4 with scoring twice and had a double.

## SENIOR LEAGUE Jets 32, Lion King 5

Eli Augenbaugh lasted for five innings to help the JET Realty Jets cruise to a 32-5 win over the Kagman Lion Hearts of Reps. Ed Salas and Rosmond Santos yesterday in the Senior League.

Augenbaugh allowed four hits with seven strikeouts and two walks. He even pitched

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JON PEREZ

Kagman Lion Hearts pitcher Wally Emul Jr. watches the direction of his throw in this file photo taken in their game against the Plus Marketing-Pacific Bio Medical Services D9ers in the Senior League division in the Saipan Little League at the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field.

## Contrasting wins for GEC, TASI Tours

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER



GEC Pawnshop and TASI Tours scored contrasting wins as action continued in the FMI Inter-Color Basketball

League last Friday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Pawnbrokers rallied from a double-digit halftime deficit to edge the Taga Warriors, 86-82, in the masters division, while in the open class the Giants coasted to a 97-64 win over the still struggling Star Water.

GEC's win allowed them to occupy second place in the five-team field with a 3-1 record behind Bank of Saipan's unbeaten 3-0 slate. The loss ended the Warriors' two-game winning run dropping them to third with a 2-1 mark.

The Warriors led from the start and seemed headed for an easy win when they built an 11-point halftime advantage but could not close out the deal against the Pawnbrokers in the final canto.

Sahnee Rañola piloted the Pawnbrokers' second half comeback firing two 3-pointers and went 3-for-5 at the free throw line to complete GEC's triumph. He also scored 21 of his game-high 33 points in the second half.

Amor Casabuena, held scoreless in

See CONTRASTING on Page 26

## NMITA releases CNMI junior rankings



JON PEREZ

Russell Buenaventura, right, and Ji Hoon Heo, left, pose with Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association vice president and CNMI National coach Jeff Race in this file photo taken during the award ceremony of last year's Fall Classic Tennis Tournament at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER



The Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association released its first official CNMI Junior rankings for the 2007 and 2008 season with the usual faces in

Saipan's winners circle dominating the top seeding.

Ranking points were awarded to local netters that joined NMITA-organized tournaments from May 2007 to April 2008.

The rankings were based on the 2007 DFS Micronesian Championships, 2007 Fall Classic Junior Tournament,

Guam Junior Championships, Coconut Classic Tennis Tournament, Pacific Islands Club-Gatorade/Stay Well Tennis Tournament, and the Spectrum Electric/Marianas Medical Center CNMI Junior Tennis Championships.

NMITA vice president and CNMI National tennis coach Jeff Race compiled the ranking points.

Russell Buenaventura is the top-ranked junior netter in the 18-and-under division, besting Ji Hoon Heo. Buenaventura compiled 345 ranking points compared to the 250 by Heo, who was either off-island competing or training in Fiji for most of 2007 and early 2008.

Tinian's Benjie Decena came in third with 220 points followed by James Camacho's 165. Woo Suk Chang placed fifth with 120 points while Dominic von Siebenthal had 80.

Andy Nutting, Joseph Jang, Calvin Yang, and Joseph Lee—who only saw action in the Coconut Classic—rounded up the Top 10 with 60, 45, 25, and 10 points, respectively.

Mayuko Arriola remains the top-ranked female 18-and-under netter with 250 points followed by Lila Mailman's 175 and the 115 made by Jodel Fernandez.

Dina Jones is ranked fourth with 60 points, while Thea Minor and Kisses

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## Housekeeping stuns F&B Chefs, 77-51

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER



The FO/Housekeeping Department stunned last year's finalist F&B Chefs, 77-51, in the continuation of the 7th Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino Inter-Departmental Basketball League at the TDHC staff house court.

The Arnold Divinagrancia-coached Housekeeping team used its quickness against the taller Chefs in completing the lopsided win.

Housekeeping opened up with a double-digit advantage after the first quarter and was never threatened after that as the Chefs could not find their usual rhythm that brought them to the

finals last year.

What added to the Chefs woes was the errors committed by rookies Russel Manalo, J.P. Garcia, and Allan Marquez that did not help their cause. Veteran scorer Philip Mabansag was also limited to just two points.

Housekeeping point guard Gaby Cayon led his team's scoring with 17 points, while getting a lot of scoring support from Joel Miranda and Richard Nura, who chipped in 15 and 12 markers.

The win also erased Housekeeping's 71-79 loss to the Security Department last week.

Manalo led the Chefs with 17 points, while Garcia and Marquez ended up with 10 apiece.

In the first game, Casino showed

See HOUSEKEEPING on Page 26



Members of F&B Chefs pose with their award-winning uniforms in last week's opening of the 7th Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino Inter-Departmental Basketball League at the TDHC staff house court.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO